

STARTING TOMORROW JACQUELINE DU PRÉ: **GENIUS AND BETRAYAL**

She was one of the greatest musical talents of her generation - but her brilliance. wreaked havoc on her family

Welfare reform plans are drawn up

Extra pension may be made compulsory

By JULI SHERMAN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

ALL workers could be obliged to pay into a national fund to finance nursing care for the elderly under radical welfare reforms being drawn up by Government. People would also have to take out a compulsory second pension to top up the state provision.

The measures, along with greater use of private insurance to replace state benefits, are being considered as part of a programme that would transform the welfare state beyond all recognition - and legislation could be introduced as early as next year.

The proposals have been put forward by Frank Field, the minister instructed by Tony Blair to "think the unthinkable" on welfare reform. And they provide the most extensive detail so far of what the Prime Minister meant when he told the Labour conference on Tuesday that the Government's future role would be to "organise provision" for the elderly rather than fund it through higher

comes after increasing concern about the number of people being forced to sell their homes to pay for nursing accommodation and with the recognition that the Exchequer cannot afford to raise state pensions even for the poorest groups.

A Royal Commission on long-term care is to be established shortly - possibly next week - and ministers are expecting it to back the radical proposals for compulsory contributions. Under the plan,

National Insurance contributions would be increased and proportion of them paid into a mutual insurance company at arms length from the Government, which would provide cover for both residential and nursing home care. At present only one person in six needs such care, but all workers would have to pay into the fund from their first week of

The idea is that everyone contributes: they all hope they won't need it, but if they do, they will be covered for it by their own and others' contributions," a government source

pensions, workers would be required to pay a percentage of their income into a second scheme to supplement the dwindling state provision so that most could retire on up to two-thirds of their final income. They would be allowed to pay more if they wished and would choose where their money was invested from a number of approved organisations and funds.

making membership of such schemes compulsory, but dropped that idea before the election for fear that it would be unpopular. Now compulsion is back on the agenda as ministers accept that may be the only way to ensure adequate provision as the elderly population grows.

The plans for the second-tier pension will be published in a green paper in April and other welfare reforms are likely to be outlined in a green paper in January. That is expected to

papers of the last Government

and former Tory ministers

and officials who served them

While the number of cases

of BSE is falling rapidly the

economic, medical and legal

ramifications will follow the

Government into the next

And with the parents of children who died from

Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease

(CJD) expected to begin legal

proceedings against the Gov-

errument over events that occ-

urred under its predecessors.

ministers bel-ieve that a inqui-

ry must now establish the

facts. It would be expected to

recommend a policy for com-pensating families of victims.

ten to the Prime Minister and

Mr Dobson proposing an inquiry: Mr Dobson and other

health ministers fully back the

idea and they hope Mr Blair

will give the go-ahead soon. The issue has yet to be

considered by the Cabinet.

Dr Cunningham has writ-

century, ministers believe.

would probably be called.

point to the scrapping of some benefits — possibly industrial injury, long-term sickness and disability benefits - in favour of personal insurance. The Prime Minister, who wants the most controversial measures to be presented to Parliament as soon as possible, is said to be taking a keen interest and members of the Downing Street Policy Unit have been closely involved in

Anthony Seldon, who

shadowed Major for three

years, tells the inside story

of the doomed campaign

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the early drafts.

Mr Field and his boss, Harriet Harman, may, however, face opposition from Gordon Brown, whose separate review on the merging of the tax and benefits systems could clash with their ideas. The Chancellor is said to be concerned about the costs of Mr Field's overall programme and it is believed that the minister has had to scale

down some of his ideas. He suggested as much at a conference fringe meeting yesterday when he said that having been told to think the unthinkable, he was now "trying to thing the workable and

One area where there may be differences is on how to protect the poprest people who are unable to contribute to a second pension. One idea backed by Mr Field is that the taxpayer should contribute to savings for those who genuinely cannot work; he is also supporting plans to put state contributions into pension funds for carers. But Mr Brown is floating an alternative plan to give tax credits to those who look after sick



Ms Short at Brighton, holding anti-personnel mines in front of a sign identical to those in Angela, where the Princess, below, had posed

Short takes mine campaign to beach

By DAMIAN WRITWORTH AND POLLY NEWTON

POR the image-conscious politician photocalis can be a minefield. Fortunately Clare Short has never been unduly concerned about image. She found her minefield on Brighton beach

The beach did not contain real mines. To publicise the Government's landmine clearance projects is being doubled to £10 million a year, a patch of shingle had been strewn with dud anti-personnel mines and warning

Ms Short, accompanied by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, posed for photographers. Then Ms Short put on body armour and a helmet and posed, holding two antipersonnel mines, in front of a sign dentical to those in Angola which read "Perigo Minas!" (danger mines). Diana, Princess of Wales, had posed in front of such a sign. Ms Short posed



with a mine-detecting device and an Amazonian stare looking like a cross between Dawn French, Diana Rigg in

The Avengers and Robocop "People like me were already working on landmines, but the beautiful thing Princess Diana did was to take the issue much more widely to people and she speeded up the international commitment to get a worldwide ban," Ms Short said. "Everyone in the world who pays tribute to her owes it to her to

help bring in the worldwide ban. Speaking to the conference, Ms Short said efforts to clear the world of buried landmines must be speeded up-"At present rates if will take 1.000 years to clear the mines and they are

such as Cambodia, Mozambique, Bosnia and very many others." Labour and the Mines Advisory

maining killing and preventing a

return to their homes and lands for

some of the poorest people in countries

recreate the imagery of the Princess's trip. But however well meant the photocall was, the effect was extraordinary. Ms Short, who has never put much store by slick Mandelson approach to style, will hardly be unduly worried. The net result - publicity for the campaign - was what the landmines campaigners had wanted

Frank Ryding, a doctor who works with the Red Cross treating victims of landmines, described to delegates some of the appalling injuries he had seen in the last if years. You just need to see one mine injury to realise that they are the most horrise of war injuries. I have seen a young boy with severe stomach injuries and a leg ·blown away above the knee by a mine. It took his father three days to transport him in a wheelbarrow through Afghan mountain passes to the nearest Red Cross hospital."

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Go-ahead likely for full BSE inquiry

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

A FULL inquiry into the origins and handling of the BSE crisis is expected to be launched by the Government shortly as fears grow that the magnitude of the disaster has yet to be disclosed. Jack Cunningham, the Agri-

culture Minister, and Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, are proposing an investigation that will rival the Scott inquiry into the arms-to-Irao affair in its significance and scope. it would have access to the

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"It is me — I used to have long hair

Pet laws may be relaxed by 1998 By the end of next year pet

owners may be able to travel abroad with their animals without having to quarantine them on their return under proposals officially unveiled

Jack Cunningham, the Ag-riculture Minister, said at the Labour Party Conference in Brighton that it was one of the options that would be considered by an indepen-dent panel of scientists be is

Paint found on Diana's car 'came from Fiat Uno'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRENCH police scientists have established that paint scrapes on the wreckage of the car in which Diana, Princess of Wales, and two others died came from a Fiat Uno. strengthening the theory that the Mercedes struck another vehicle before hurtling into a concrete pillar.
Police had earlier identified

remnants of a Fiat Uno rear brake light among broken glass from the Mercedes' headlamp about 30 yards before the point of impact in the road tunnel beneath the Pont de l'Alma. Since then they have been

working on the hypothesis that Henri Paul, the drunk driver of the Mercedes who died in the crash, lost control of the vehicle after hitting the back of a Fiat Uno. Paint scrapes were found on a detached wing mirror from

by scientists at the National Police Institute for Criminal Research outside Paris are said to have shown that the marks were left by a Fiat Uno. Police have not said whether

the brake light shards and paint on the Mercedes are from the same car, but yesterday's discovery has turned the second car" theory, previously thought a slim possibility, into the judicial investigation's central focus. Several witnesses have described seeing another car driving through the tunnel which sped away

after the accident Paint scrapes taken from the right-hand side of the tunnel are also being tested, although the results have yet to be The institute will be able to

establish the year and place of production of the Fiat. Investigators have contacted garages across France to establish if a Flat Uno was taken in for repair in the days after the crash.

While it is conceivable that the paint renmants were from: an earlier scrape, it is unlikely that the Paris Ritz, which provided the vehicle, would have allowed the Princess and Dodi Fayed to be

driven in a damaged car. Yesterday Trevor Rees-Jones, 29, the sole crash survivor, was preparing to fly home to Britain today by helicopter having been interviewed for a second time by French investigators. Mr. Rees-Jones, a body-

guard working for Mohamed Al Fayed, has been able to recollect further details about the journey from the Paris Ritz and "vaguely" recognised some photographs of paparazzi. However, he still has no memory of the crucial seconds before the crash, sources close to the investigation said.

Since the accident on August 31 he has been recovering from severe face, thest and head wounds at La Phie-Salpetrière hospital.



Curse puts fear of God into thieving clerics

the Mercedes, discovered in

the tunnel, and along the front

BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

AFTER years of trying without success to stop dergymen stealing from his shelves, an antiquarian religious bookseller has at last stumbled on a solution which he claims is working - a 16th-century Spanish curse.

"For him that stealeth a Book from this Library, let it change into a serpent into his hand and rend him. Let him be struck with Palsy, and all his Members blasted. Let him languish in Pain crying aloud for Mercy

Agony till he sink in Dissolution. Let Bookworms gnaw his Entrails in token of the Worm that dieth not, and when at last he goeth to his final Punishment, let the flames of Hell consume him for ever and aye."

Suddenly religious shoplifters have decided to go and sin no more. Two penitents have even sent back targe parcels of books. John Pendlebury, 34, owner of a

second-hand bookshop in Stamford Hill, north London, said he had tried a surveillance camera and confrontation. He posted on his shelves copies and let there be no surcease to his of the eighth commandment, "Thou

On one day alone, he apprehended

an Anglican priest and a rabbi stealing books from the Psahne seetion. On another occasion, an entire half shelf of books disappeared. With thefts costing him hundreds of

pounds a year out of a turnover of L60,000, Mr Pendlehury was stumped until a friend visited the monastery of San Pedro in Barcelona.

"He saw the curse in the monas tery's library and immediately thought of me." Mr Pendlebury said. He decided to try-the curse and to his surprise the thefts ceased instantly. Their has always been a problem." he said. It is a common problem in all religious bookshops. For some add reason it seems to be worse than in

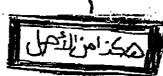
secular brokshops."

This might be because charches attracted sinners as well as saints, he suggested. More than half his customers are deries.

"It is not meant to be an actual curse: on anyone," he said. "It is rather meant to prod people's consciences. I have not noticed any books at all going missing in the last two or three

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Rhetoric on crime that's a law unto itself



n May L, Jack Straw, the Home Secretary. told Labour delegates at Brighton yesterday, Britain's Government was transformed. He had just made the same speech that every Home Secretary has made at every party conference I can remember since I was young enough to be liable to one of Mr Straw's curfews on children.

On reflection, that remark is unfair. The speech was distinguishable (just) from those made by a number of Tory Home Secretaries. It was a shade more right-

Faced with the choice between a neck massage by a lady on the Virgin Atlantic stand in the Exhibitors' Hall, and listening to Mr Straw, I opted for the Home Secretary. It proved the right decision, not because the speech was better than the massage, but because after the speech anyone whose heart was not made of glass needed therapy to massage

away the pain. This was not Straw's fault. The speech was well read and contained no surprises. It is just that the relationship between a Home Secretary and his speech at a party conference is different from that enjoyed by any other

Cabinet minister. Clare Short's speech as International Development Secretary, for instance, was very much her own: honest and original. She delivered her speech. But a Home Secretary's speech delivers its minister. It has a personality all its own, delegates expect it, it is stubbornly resistant to change and its

elements are well known. Mr Straw's speech had been there since before Mr Straw was born. Like a hand-me-down grey suit, kept until the boy fits, the Home Secretary's conference speech was waiting for him to grow up, lose the ideals of his youth and

perfect the arts of political hackery. Yesterday he tried it on. It fitted perfectly.

Mr Straw was given a standing ovation for saying that crime was a very bad thing, that liberty demanded order, that it was a shame if women were afraid to go out of doors, that parents should take responsibility for their children, and that "too often" the police were powerless in the face of young thugs. Too often? How often would he like?

Turning to racial discrimination, he said there were "too many" glass ceilings. He did not say how many would be right. This "too often" and "too many" routine is the special mark of Home Secretaries' conference speeches and Daily Telegraph leading articles. Like the clink of ice in the gin and tonic at a golf club bar, "too often" heralds an opinion long on indignation and short on strategy.

A Home Secretary's speech, however, should contain one tiny novelty, a fresh carnation for the buttonhole. The speech which delivered Jack Straw yesterday had arranged for two exhibits in the form of Bev and Carole to be paraded for the audience to inspect.

These pleasant looking women were dragged in to tell delegates that, after Mr Straw had visited their housing estate in Newark, yobbery there had ceased. Nobody told us why. It appears the Home Secretary just whistled and the yobs went away. Bev and Carole had come

to thank him, and Labour. As, nervously, they read their lines, Jack Straw stood behind them with spectacles glinting, pleased and indulgent as a trendy vicar at a blessing.

Conference reports, page 8 John Lloyd, Matthew Parris and Philip Howard, page 20



Lord Healey, the former Chancellor, celebrated his 80th birthday at the Labour Party Conference, although it occurred on August 30. He and Lady Healey held a party for 260 guests at the Grand Hotel in Brighton. Among the guests was the former party leader, Michael Foot, 84

71-year-old to become **Commons** watchdog

By VALERIE ELLIOTT

SIR Patrick Neill, QC, a 71year-old father of six, has been chosen to succeed Lord Nolan as chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. The former Warden of All Souls College, Oxford, has

been offered a three-year contract but was yesterday enjoying the last few days of a Mediterranean cruise with his wife Caroline. He will take over when Lord Nolan returns full-time to his duties as a law lord next month.

Colleagues described Sir Patrick as the epitome of respectability and uprightness. "He has a formidable



who has his feet in the real world. He is a tough, pragmatic man, not one of the unworldly intellectuals. He also has experience of top level administration."

There were some eyebrows raised in Whitehall that Mr Blair had chosen someone of 71 — Lord Nolan is 67. But one source said last night. Sir Patrick is a very young 71 and it is a job that needs consider-

School standards are no better, say researchers

By David Charter, Education correspondent

STANDARDS of reading and mathematics in primary schools have failed to improve for a decade and the results of government tests are unreliable, according to a new

Researchers at Manchester University said their findings showed the billions of pounds spent on national testing was wasted and rejected the claims of successive Education Secretaries that standards were rising. Using identical tests for eight years, they found reading levels for 11-year-olds declined. There was no provement in r for children aged 7 and 11, or

in reading at 7. The researchers said their tests, which stayed the same from year to year, were more reliable than national curriculum tests which have changed in format over the years.

The findings suggest that improved marks in the government tests reflect easier questions or slacker marking. The findings threaten to undermine Tony Blair's ambitious target for 80 per cent of 11-year-olds to reach approved levels in English by 2002 and 75 per cent in mathematics. This summer, 11-year-olds recorded their best-ever grades with 62 per cent scoring the expected level in mathematics

and 63 per cent in English. Manchester University's mathematics research, published in The Times Educational Supplement today, was carried out with 4,000 7 and IIyear-olds by a team led by Julie Davies. It follows her literacy research, presented last month, that showed reading standards among 11-yearolds had fallen since the national curriculum was

same for seven-year-olds. Ms Davies said the government targets were meaningless: "It will be easy to hit the numeracy targets: they will-change the tests. If you monitor standards you have got to have the same test, but the administration and con-

introduced and remained the

tent of national curriculum tests have been changed." Ms Davies uses a test supplied by the National Foundation for Educational

Research but the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, which sets the government tests, said the Manchester tests were out of date, based on a small sample from one area and did not reflect what children were learning. 🐣

Their tests are based on what was being taught in 1983. long before the introduction of the national curriculum. whereas our tests test what is being room," the QCA spokeswoman said.

She added: "We have refined the tests without changing the standard." A spokesman for the De-

partment for Education and Employment said: This year's test results confirm the targets for 2002 are ambitious but achievable."

Education, page 37

Deal will speed removal of incompetent teachers

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

INCOMPETENT teachers could be removed from the classroom within a month. rather than waiting up to two years for current procedures to take effect, under a landmark agreement reached between unions and employers yesterday.

The breakthrough will pave the way for legislation to be introduced next month, fulfilling the Government's pledge to speed up dismissal procedures. A parallel agreement is to be negotiated for head teachers and their deputies. Under the new arrangements for classroom teachers,

staff would be given a formal warning if they failed consistently to perform their duties to a "professionally acceptable standard". They would then have two terms to improve

before facing dismissal. But the agreement says: "Undue delay may not always be in the interest of all parties. In extreme cases, where the education of pupils is jeopardised, the period given for improvement after the date of a formal warning will be no

more than four weeks." The swift removal of incompetent teachers has been one of the main themes of the Prime Minister's policy of zero tolerance of failure" Head teachers and governors have complained that dismissal procedures which

took up to two years were

hampering their efforts to raise standards. When the procedures are introduced next year, schools will be expected to record the nature of teachers' deficiencies and arrange a formal recorded interview to discuss them. Teachers under scrutiny will be set targets for improvement and offered support by their school and local education

NEWS IN BRIEF Sinn Fein invited on Question

Time

The BBC has invited Sing ed to boycott the that Gerry Adams, Martin nior member of Sina Fein would be asked to participate alongside Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary in a debate chaired by David

They criticised the BBC's decision to allow Sinn Fein to appear and offer opinions on a programme which would debate issues other than the

NHS fees urged

The British Medical Association is asking the Govern-ment to consider charging NHS patients for hospital stays and GP visits. Sandy Macara, the chairman, said some hospitals were having to turn away all but emergen cy cases and that £500 million was needed to avert a fund ing crisis this winter.

Hunt ban stays

The National Trust's ruling council decided last night that a ban on deer-hunting on place. The decision followed the advice of a High Court judge who said the trust's original decision, passed unanimously in April, had been rushed and taken with是是在原理的特別的以及 1000年 10

Nurse appeals

Lawyers for Lucille Meconvicted of complicity in the murder of the Australian nurse Yvonne Gilford; lodged an appeal against her sentence of 500 lashes and eight years in jail. Deborah Parry, 38, from Alton, Hampshire, is still waiting for the court to deliver its verdict.

Hip fractures

Smoking causes one in eight hip fractures in older women doctors have discovered. Not, only are smokers more likely to fall over, but their bones become more brittle and likely to break, the team from St London found after studying nearly 3,000 women who had broken their hips.

Attacker held

Lee Pommell, 20, of Acton West London, who repeatedly stabbed Timothy Becket, 47, while accomplices stole his £10,000 watch; was sent to a young offenders' institute for 13 years. He had denied, at Isleworth Crown Court, charges of robbing and wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Hospital blackout

The Royal Free Hospital at Hampstead. North London, had to rely on batteries and hand worked generators to maintain incubators and lifesupport systems for 45 uni-ines after a double power failure. A cable fault ent electricity supplies and then emergency generators and telephones broke down.

Global soap

Notting Hill has been chosen by the BBC as the setting for its new World Service soap opera. Westway, which will be heard by 35 million listeners across the globe, is designed to reflect "everyday British life". The area of northwest London has been chosen because of its multi-



The nice surprise is the prices

BSE inquiry

Continued from page i There will be urgent discussions over the next few weeks over the form of the inquiry. At least five options will be considered, including a full judicial inquiry, a royal commission, and a tribunal of

A senior ministerial source said last night: "We owe it to the children who have died as a result of this tragedy to come up with the full facts."

Hitherto, the priority of both the previous and the present Government has been to get the beef ban in Europe. lifted. There were fears that a long drawn-out inquiry that would highlight disturbing facts about how the crisis unfolded over a decade might have prompted new fears among Britain's partners. However, ministers now

believe that it should not be delayed much further. They

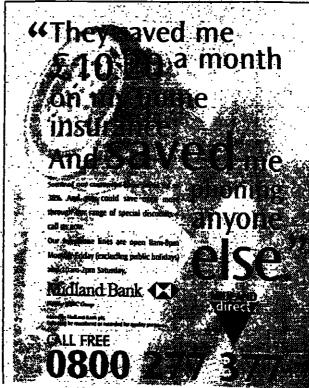
want the inquiry to be authoritative and public, but to take place over a relatively short

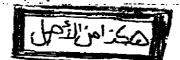
Relatives of victims have been pressing for an independent inquiry. The parents of Stephen Churchill, the 19year-old who in 1995 was the first to die of a new strain of. CJD are heading a families association which is pushing for a an investigation and

Mrs Dorothy Churchill has said of an inquiry: "The rela-tives of the victims deserve that if nothing else." Meanwhile Dr Cun-

ningham has submitted new proposals to Brussels for the lifting of the ban.

He told the Labour Party conference in Brighton that he was asking that meat from all cattle born after August I, 1996, should be exempt from





Police face prosecution over custody death

A CORONER called yesterday for

an urgent review of the use by police of CS gas in restraining suspects after a jury found that a Gambian asylum-seeker who died

Ibrahima Sey. 29, was held in a bear-hug, had his hands handcuffed behind his back, was forced into a prone position on the floor and had his face sprayed with CS gas at Ilford police station, East London, after he was arrested for a domestic incident in May last year. An inquest jury at Snaresbrook Crown Court found by a majority of seven to two that he died of

restraint asphyxia and excited delirium and was unlawfully killed.

Last night the Crown Prosecution Service said that police officers involved in Mr Sey's death could face prosecution. A spokeswoman said that the file would be reopened and a review carried out by a new lawyer who has not dealt with the case before. He would study new. evidence presented by the family's pathologist at the inquest and would take counsel's advice on any possible charges.

The incident was initially investigated by a team from Hertfordshire police under the command of

Constable. In July, the CPS decided not to bring charges after concluding that there was not enough evidence to produce a realistic chance of convictions. It also said the case would be reviewed in the

light of the inquest. The four-week inquest heard evidence from five pathologists and 29 police officers. Mr Sey, a former Gambian under-25 footballer, was arrested after his wife, Amie, jumped out of a first floor window then he began throwing things.

Police found him holding his baby daughter, Ramatulay, and Manor Park, East London. Up to eight police officers were involved a sufferer shows physical signs of in restraining the 6ft 3in, 18 stone Mr Sey.

Coroner in unlawful killing case calls for a review of the use of CS gas by police in restraining suspects. Lin Jenkins reports

Harold Price, the coroner, said the verdict reflected "growing pub-lic concern" in relation to the way people were restrained by police. He said: The use of CS spray should be reviewed by all police forces and there is an urgent need for research into the use of all CS gas and for the combined effect when used with MIBK " MIBK is the solvent used with CS gas in a

He said he questioned the wisdom of using it in cases of excited delirium - a mental illness where

extreme exhaustion, leaving him vulnerable to further respiritory difficulties when restrained. "Excited delirium should be treated as a medical emergency and the person emergency department. He called on all police forces to review then

Raju Bhatt, the family's lawyer. said that Mr Sey was "rendered unable to breathe. The effects of his mental illness rendered him vulnerable to the restraint that killed

methods of restraint.

He added: "Nobody has been able to eliminate the possibility that

breathing difficulties."

In a statement, the Association of Chief Police Officers, which introduced the use of the CS sprays, said that guidelines on all forms of taken to the nearest accident and restraint had been revised in the past two years. John Orr. Chief Constable of Strathclyde and president of the association; said that he was suspending trials of CS sprays in Easterhouse and Dundee until a thorough evaluation can be made of all the facts".

Scotland Yard said the Metropolitan Police deeply regretted the death and the distress caused to the

Graduate 'killed after getting into wrong car'

By Russell Jenkins

A UNIVERSITY graduate was murdered after getting into a car she thought was a taxi after a night out with friends, a court was told

Rachel Thacker, 21, who was about to start work as an occupational therapist, wanted to return to student rooms in Salford after celebrating a friend's 21st birthday in central Manchester. But she was kidnapped and driven to a pub car park in Ardwick Green, an inner-city area. where her murderer smashed her head with a breeze block because she refused to submit to a sexual assault. He then set

Her naked and charred body was found the next day on August 11, 1996, near the George and Dragon pub. Manchester Crown Court was told. Duncan Bermingham, unemployed, of Longsight, Manchester, denies murder.

Ms Thacker, of Chase Terrace, Staffordshire, had been. drinking in a number of bars with her friends, ending up in a fashionable bar in Manches

Peter Openshaw, QC, for



Thacker: thought car that stopped was taxi

the prosecution, said that several incidents suggested she may have been drinking unwisely. At one time she tried to get into a Jeep that was stuck in traffic, thinking it was a taxi. She was becoming "loud, drunk and tiresome

At 12.30am Ms Thacker attempted to flag down various cars, apparently in the belief that they were taxis. A battered red Ford Sierra stopped. Mr Openshaw said: 'In spite of advice from her friends that the car was not a

FULL ON.

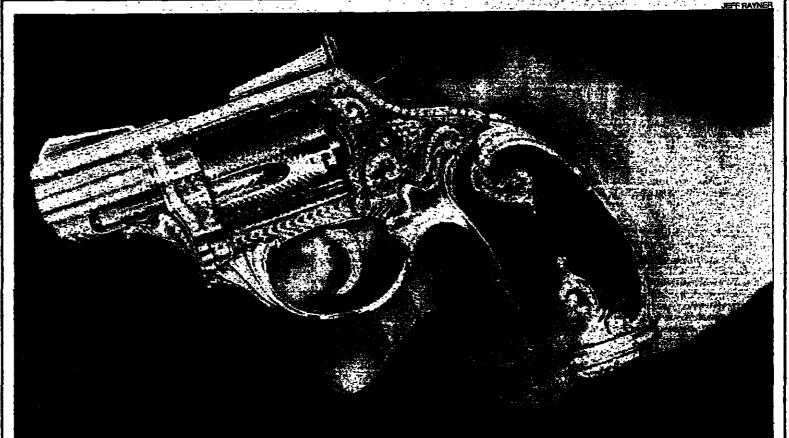
the car. The car then drove off with her on board and the passenger door still open. She

was never seen alive again." Mr Openshaw said that next day a passer-by saw her naked body lying on some broken pallets and breeze blocks at the back of the George and Dragon. "There was a bloodstained breeze block nearby. There was no evidence of rape having been completed but you may think it self-evident there was a sexual assault. The body had scorch marks and the area smelt of petrol."

Mr Openshaw told the court that on the night of the murder Mr Bermingham, who had recently broken up with his partner, had borrowed the Ford Sierra from a friend and failed to return it. The car was traced by police from a detailed description given to them by Ms Thacker's friends.

Mr Openshaw said that samples taken from under Ms Thacker's fingernails matched Bermingham's hair, leading to the inevitable and irrestible conclusion that he was the

The trial continues.



The .357 Smith and Wesson revolver, with diamonds studded on white gold and platinum, that was handed in to Horsham police station

£65,000 diamond gun is bang on time

mond-encrusted revolver at a police station hours before the deadline for

giving up handgons expired. The 7in .357 Smith and Wesson revolver, with diamonds embedded in white gold and platinum, was the

Sussex, on Tuesday night. Police said the owner, who does not want to be identified, was a craftsman who. had turned the gun into a collector's piece. It was in a small case with a valuation note from the jeweller Asprey. A Home Office spokesman

ment's compensation scheme, the owner was entitled to be reimbursed with the full value of the gun.

Sergeant Robin Pine. Who reout the final one. "I have never seen.

handed in 12 others before taking. East and he had promised himself

Student 'urged friend to join in group sex'

A STUDENT who claims she was raped by six army officers twice telephoned her friend in an effort to persuade her to take part in group sex, a court was told vesterday.

She was trying to persuade me to go down and have group sex but I said no and would not budge," the Zi-year-old witness said. "She had another crack at trying to get me involved, trying to put pressure on me, but I was not interested," she added.

Under cross-examination the woman said that during the calls the 24-year-old alleged victim had told her she had had sex with two officers on May 17, just 10 days before

the alleged rape. She said: "She told me she had had sex with Lieutenant Rupert Whiting, Nick Octtinger, and Phil Bates was also present but she said he could not take part. She told me that the sex was with her

The woman told Oxford Crown Court that she went to visit the alleged victim on May 27 and the subject was again raised by the student in the pub as the pair were drinking with the Army officers. She said Mr Oettinger was also pestering her to have group sex but she told him she was not interested.

She told the jury: "Towards the end of the evening. Nick Oettinger said 'Are we going to have some fun later? and said 'No.' He said it about three or four times during the day. Going by my friend's conversation, he was after group sex. I was not interested

Earlier the court had heard that the witness had gone for a sauna at the college with the alleged victim and seven naked officers before leaving to have sex with Lieutenant Whiting in the shower and later in his room. She said she went past the sauna on her way to Lieutenant Whiting's room after the shower and asked her friend, who was still in the sauna, whether she was all right. She said yes I'm fine' but it was very muffled. I asked her again if she was sure she was all right and someone said she was fine." Hours later she had been woken up by her friend bang-ing on the door. "I opened the door and my friend was

crying. She looked absolutely scared and terrified and was sobbing. She said 'I have been raped by these bastards." Captain Ian Barlow, 29, Captain Philip Bates, 26, Lieutenant Darren Bartlett, 24, Lieutenant Matthew Tupling. 24, and officer cadets Nicholas Oettinger. 20. and Andrew

Stout. 20, all deny raping the

Ricky Smith, left, and Mark Ashcroft, the dead boys

Boys hit by train were stoning car

By PAUL WILKINSON

TWO schoolboys were hit by an express train as they fled from the driver of a car they were pelting with stones, an inquest was told yesterday. The two-failed to see the trans-Pennine train bearing down on them at 70mph as they escaped over the main line at

Ricky Smith, 15, and Mark Ashcroft, 13, who both lived locally, died almost instantly on Easter Sunday this year.

Wayne Green, their com-panion, said in a statement to the inquest at Wakefield: "We were mucking about in a park when we decided to go to the railway lines. We climbed up the embankment and saw a bus coming, so we got some

Halton in Leeds.

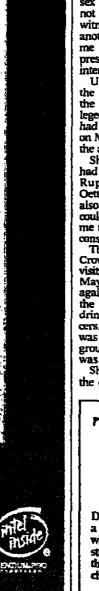
stones and threw them at it. "We ran away but went back later and threw some more stones at another bus. But we missed it and hit a car by accident. Ricky and Mark ran off up the track. Then I'

stayed where I was. I shouted to them to watch out, but they had their backs to me and couldn't hear. I saw it hit them and it threw them in the air."

Derek Payne, the train driver, said in a statement. "I had slowed down to 70mph and I saw two youngsters who leapt into the path of the train. I could not get out of the way and there was a tremendous bang when the train hit them." David Hinchliffe, the West Yorkshire Coroner, said: These youngsters were doing nothing more than playing and larking about, but paid the ultimate price. The jury returned verdicts of accidental

Later Ricky's mother, Wendy, said: "I would like to think that people will hear about

stay away from railway lines." A Railtrack spokesman said: Since the accident we have spent £20,000 to put up



The trial continues. saw a train coming and 1 fencing in this area." Tissue stored for boy's future

BY IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOCTORS took tissue yesterday from a two-year-old boy facing treatment which will leave him sterile, ready to store it for the next 20 years in the hope that it will one day enable him to have

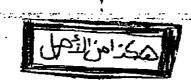
It was taken during an operation to prepare the boy. Osear von Memerty, for the bone marrow transplant which

is his only chance of overcoming the rare inherited metabolic disorder from which he and his sister, Valeska, 5, both suffer. The two children were brought by their parents from South Africa for treatment at the Manchester Children's Hospital.

The bone marrow transplant in-volves chemotherapy which will sterilise Oscar, but doctors hope that eventually it will be possible to reiniect the testicular tissue to make him able

tube haby 20 years ago and who now runs a fertility clinic in Nottingham.

Oscar's father, Ian, said last night: "We are very grateful to Mr Fishel for his work and his attempts to give patients who undergo chemotherapy and irradiation a chance at fertility."



HOME NEWS

Cunningham may let pets travel abroad by end of 1998

owners may be able to travel abroad with their animals without having to quarantine them on their return - for the first time in nearly a century under proposals officially un-veiled by the Agriculture Min-

Jack Cunningham said it was one of the options that would be considered by an independent panel of scientists he is setting up to review antirabies controls. Dr Cunningham, a dog lover, told the Labour Party conference in Brighton: "It is time to take a fresh look at our quarantine laws. But any new system must be at least as effective in protecting the British people as the system we have had in place for most of this century.

The panel, to be headed by Ian Kennedy, Professor of Health Law, Ethics and Policy at University College London, will consider everything from maintaining the status quo to abolition of quarantine for all pets, regardless of origin.

But the option Dr Cunningham is thought to favour would involve scrapping quarantine only for pets moving between Britain and other countries in the European Union and the European Free Trade Association, plus a few other countries deemed to be rabies-free, such as Australia and New Zealand.

Animals from these countries would be allowed in provided they were accompanied by documents showing they had been vaccinated against rabies and blood-tested (to prove the vaccine had taken) and could be identified

The identity and paperwork of pets would be checked by qualified vets at ports of entry or at inland reception centres. The checks might include confirmatory blood tests. Any animals that failed would have to go into quarantine. Otherwise they would be re-

leased the same day. Some 300,000 of Britain's



Cunningham: ordered review of existing rules

six million domestic dogs already carry microchips, which have unique identity numbers. Vets charge up to £30 for implanting them. About 180,000 of the country's seven million cats are microchipped.

The scientific panel would not be expected to make its recommendations before early 1998, according to a discussion document released by Dr Cunningham. There would then be a further few months of public consultation. Any new arrangement would not begin before the second half of 1998.

Peter Davies, Director-General of the RSPCA, said: "We are delighted that the system of quarantine is to be reviewed and that this will include a full risk assessment so that the safety of any system which might replace quarantine is properly assessed."

The review was also welcomed by Passports for Pets, the strongest pressure group campaigning for which is run by Lady Fretwell, the wife of a former British Ambassador to France. "I am delighted and hope that we will now see early reform of an outdated and unkind system,"

Lady Fretwell's group has 4,000 members, including Chris Patten, the former Governor of Hong Kong. Lady

Annabel Goldsmith, Elton John and the novelists Jilly Cooper and Barbara Taylor Bradford, Baron Donoughue, one of Dr Cunningham's junior ministers, is also a member of the group, and Viscount Rothermere, the owner of the Daily Mail, is a member of its committee of honour. The group spent £120,000 last year on publicising its cause.

The scientific panel is expected to look closely at Sweden, which switched from quarantine in mid-1994 to a system based on vaccination and blood tests.

Susanne Eliasson, who administers the controls for the Swedish Board of Agriculture, said: "We have not found any problems with the new system, even though the number of dogs entering the country has risen from 300 a year to around 12,000 since quarantine was relaxed."

Britain has had quarantine since 1901. Apart from the Republic of Ireland, no other country in the EU now requires quarantine. No one has died from locally contracted rabies in Britain since 1903. nor in any other EU country since the late 1920s, even though rabies is still quite common in wild and domestic animals in mainland Europe.

The fox strain of rabies found in Europe does not seem to affect human beings. However, the discussion document says it is a major concern that, if the rabies virus were to enter Britain, it "could establish a reservoir of infection in foxes which would be extremely hard to combat", particularly in view of the high number

Owners of quarantine kennels called yesterday for com-pensation if the law were changed. Michael Wykeham. who runs a kennels at Salisbury, Wiltshire, said: "It would be brutal if the Government simply pulled the rug out from under people who have invested their life savings



هكذار من الإصل

Emma Neal at the vets' surgery in Shepton Mallet where she found the prize-winning badger flea, below

Animal nurse wins holiday in flea-for-all

A VETERINARY nurse has won £1.000 of holiday vouchers as the first prize in a national competition to find the rarest flea.

Emma Neal, works at a practice in Shepton Mallet, Somerset, sent a flea found on a dog at the surgery to the judges stuck between sticky tape.

It did not look much but it turned out to be the badger flea, three times bigger than the more common pests and far more prized by experts. Mrs Neal said: "I was just

flea that looked a bit big. It is a weird way to win a holiday." Flea-hunting enthusiasts all over Britain captured a total of 332 specimens but the

badger flea was judged the

rarest and finest specimen. organised by the flea powder maker Novartis to help John Maunder, of the Cambridge Medical Entomology Centre, with his research. He said yesterday that it was the first time a badger flea had been found on a dog.

This competition helps us

while a rabbit flea earned the

find out what fleas are on pets and how many." The that half of adult human beings do not react to fleas, so assume their pets are clear of them. "This is had news for cats and dogs as their fleas go unnoticed."

A hedgehog flea won a Coventry dog owner a weekend country hotel break.

finder a video recorder. There was good news for Arlo Guthrie, organiser of the Flea For All competition. said: "Originally the first prize was going to go to the person who sent in a human flea. But none were found so it has gone to the badger flea

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Town in mourning for four fishermen

Coastguards yesterday called off the search for survivors from the trawler Sapphire. Adam Steen, 29, Robert Stephen, 25. Brice Cameron, 32, and Victor Podlesny, 45. all from Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, are tho have died aboard the 76tonne vessel, which cap-sized and sank in rough seas 20 miles east of the port. The skipper, Victor Robertson, 27, survived after jumping through a heing winched from a liferaft by an RAF

Libel donation

The film director Michael Winner accepted a £1.000 donation to the Diana, Princess of Wales Mcmorial Fund in settlement of a libel action against the London Borough of Ken-sington and Chelsea over an unjustified legal notice about unpaid rates.

Solicitor barred

The Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal struck off Keith Wilson, 55, of Aldham, Essex, formerly of Jackson and Partners, Colchester, for misappropriating £31,000 from two widowed clients and ar-

Army dismissal-

Lieutenant George Moles, a Territorial Army instructor for the cadet force of the Queen's Own Highlanders in Dingwall. Highland, has been dis-missed in disgrace by a court martial for indecently assaulting a 15-year-old girl cadet.

Lottery cheat

John Hardy, a lottery stealing £836 from his 32man works syndicate in Langley Mill, Derbyshire, was jailed for six months by magistrates at Ilkeston. One of the lines he failed to pay for would have won £50,000.

Sandpit death

A digger driver died when his machine fell into a flooded sandpit near Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. The body of George Whittaker, 60, of Brad-well, Norfolk, was recovered from the gravel workings after a three-hour search by divers.

Windy benefit

The village primary school at Cassop, near Durham, is to benefit from its windswept position by generating its own electricity. A 50ft-high wind turbine. to be set up early next year; in its grounds, will provide all its power needs. apart from heating.

Harrison Ford

A report ("Action man wrote off the draft", June 13) stated that Harrison Ford had posed as a conscientious objector to avoid the Vietnam war. In fact. Mr Ford's objection was sincere and principled, and we regret the

£31m homes-for-votes fine was unfair, claims Porter

By Alexandra Frean, local government corresponden

THE decision to impose a record £31 million fine on Dame Shirley Porter and five former colleagues from West-minster City Council for their alleged role in the "homes for votes" affair was both ludicrous and unfair, the High Court was told yesterday. Anthony Scrivener, QC, act-

ing for the former Tory council leader, said that John Magill, the district auditor who had surcharged Dame Shirley and her colleagues, had acted im-properly and had "misconceived the role of politics in local government" when conducting his investigation.

Dame Shirley and her for-mer colleagues hope to overturn the surcharge, which was imposed on them in May last year after Mr Magill said they were guilty of "wilful misconduct" and "disgraceful and improper gerrymandering" between 1987 and 1989. He found that they used the rightto-buy scheme to sell council houses in marginal Tory wards at knock-down prices to people who were more likely

to vote Conservative. The outcome of the case could have far-reaching implications for the future regulation of local government and could influence Government thinking on whether to imple-ment the recommendations of Lord Nolan's report on standards of conduct in local government, and abolish the surcharge system altogeher.

In his opening remarks

yesterday, Mr Scrivener said that the surcharge system was deeply flawed as it cast the district auditor in the roles of "investigator, judge, prosecu-tor and his own expert witness". He conceded that the Conservative group on the council had decided to concentrate sales of council homes in marginal wards, in the hope of improving their electoral performance. He added that this was "never more than an aspiration" and that there was no evidence that any of the

Mr Scrivener said that Mr Magill's handling of the case had been unfair. He had fuelled hostile media coverage of Dame Shirley's case, re-

home owners voted

fused to allow any of the appellants to see relevant documents before they were interand seized party political documents belonging to the Con-

servative group on the council.

Although it was true that Dame Shirley's father, Sir John Cohen, who built up the Tesco empire, was "the most successful barrow boy of all time", the £31 million surcharged was a massive sum for anyone, he said. Apart from Dame Shirley,

the other appellants are Graham England, former housing director, Peter Hartley, former housing chairman, Bill Phillips, former managing direc-tor, and David Weeks, former deputy leader. Paul Hayler,



Dame Shirley: accused of wilful misconduct

ex-divisional housing director, who was also named by Mr Magill's report, suffered a nervous breakdown and has had his appeal stayed. One former councillor, Dr Michael Dutt, committed suicide after learning that he could have been surcharged. The hearing continues.

Law Report, page 39

Lower calories for longer life By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

HUMAN life could be prolonged by low-calorie diers that raise levels of "good" cholesterol in the bloodstream. a ten-year study of monkeys has shown. In shorter-lived species such

as the fruitfly or the rat, it is known that cutting calories by 30 per cent leads to a 30 per cent increase in lifespan. The monkey experiments, carried out ot the US National Institute of Ageing and the Arizona Centre on Ageing, suggest that the same may apply to a species much closer to man.

divided into two groups and fed a diet containing little fat or cholesterol. Half were also cent lower in calories.

The rhesus monkeys were given a diet that was 30 per

George Roth reports that the calorie-restricted monkeys showed higher levels of high-density lipoprotein cholest-erol, the form that protects against heart disease, and lower levels of triglycerides, fatty acid compounds in the blood. Both these changes would be beneficial. In addition, the monkeys on

the restricted diet showed lower blood pressure and better glucose tolerance, which should translate into lower risks of diabetes. These re-sults suggest that caloric restriction may exert beneficial effects in primates similar to those previously observed in rodents," Dr Roth said. "They may someday serve as a In the American Journal of model for human studies."

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Brides will not obey in new church service

Sex and divorce are acknowledged in Anglican liturgy being tested by 800 parishes, reports Ruth Gledhill

BRIDES will no longer prom- husband, to have and to hold ise to "love, cherish and obey" their husbands in a new marriage service drawn up for the Church of England

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The service, which will be tried out in 800 parishes before it is introduced nationally, tries to blend feminist the promise to obey.

thinking with the tradition of the 1662 Book of Common Standiffe Bishop of Salisbury.

For the first time, the new liturgy acknowledges that a woman can tempt a husband to be unfaithful and to "put asunder" a marriage. It recognises the enormous risks of divorce and tells couples that the Church is "available for counselling and support in the years that follow".

The most controversial change by the Anglican liturgical commission is to remove the word "obey" from the service, reflecting a general move to "inclusive" language in the Church. Theologians argue that contemporary interpretations of the Bible show. that woman is not subordinate to man, as once thought.

In the Prayer Book, the forced by St Paul. woman says: "I, N. [names]

from this day increase, for non-better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cheests and in obey, till death us do part. The man's yows, which come first, are similar, but without

and chairman of the liturgical commission; said: "Obey was in the Prayer Book because of a view that the natural order

6 Obey was in the Prayer Book because of a view

that woman was subordinate to man 9

was subordinate to mankind and woman was subordinate to man. That was due to a particular reading of parts of the book of Genesis, rein-"But if we read carefully

saying about the relationship between man and woman, it does not actually make it so crystal clear that in marriage one is entirely subordinate to

preferred to use the version without "obey". "For the same reason, people on the whole prefer to exchange rings rather than have a man placing a ring on his wife's funger as a symbol of his possession of her." Similarly, he said, there were many women who felt that they were not the possessions of their parents and did not wish to be "given away" by one of them.

. Tony Kilmister, of the Prayer Book Society, said: "My wife has always obeyed me, but she knows who is really boss. I am more concerned about the instances of inclusive language. This pushing of the feminist agenda is in danger of doing real danger to Anglican doctrine."

A bolthole for traditionalists remains. Brides who wish to obey will be able to choose the Book of Common Prayer, although many clergy and coutake thee, N. to my wedded ... what the New Testament is ples prefer not to use it "the custom and practice of the



John Halliburton, who refuses to take Communion from her, but will work alongside her at the cathedral

because of references to sin. fornication and "men's earnal lusts and appetites".

The new liturgy restores the traditional phrase, "Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder". but changing "no man" to "no one". It mentions sex directly in a prayer celebrating "the joy of loving", where God is thanked for the gift of sexual

A new rubric, or rule, has been inserted, stating that it is Church of England" to offer

marriage preparation.

While the tradition of the bride's father "giving away" his daughter is still an option, provision for the bride and groom to walk into church together, as in the Book of Common Prayer. For the first time there will be prayers for the "return after the honeymoon", for anniversaries, for the renewal of vows and for

the blessing of a new ring.

ing grounds, the first time that such a tactic has been deployed. Under a law passed by its General Synod a lew

months ago, the Church of England can experiment with new liturgies locally so that problems emerge before the are officially

with modernising all the es-

tablished Church's authorised

liturgies by 2000, yesterday

sent the marriage service and

a new funeral service to the

800 parishes selected as test-

mental period, couples marrying in any of the 800 churches, spread throughout England's 42 dioceses, will be able to opt for the experimental liturgy. the Alternative Service Book or the Book of Common

Should the service be approved, the ASB will eventualfall into abeyance, but the Book of Common Prayer will

Thai bride tells of her love for good-hearted gasman



FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND IN MANGKOK

THE young That "mail-order" bride who married the 75-year-old former chairman of British Gas's Northern Region spoke yesterday of her love for him.

At her tiny Bangkok flat, Baniit Sawarngder, 23, said: "I know we can be very happy together." She British newspapers and even more astounded at Brian Clegg's disclo-

want children. I will have to talk to Brian about that. He is a goodhearted man. I am sure he will

Miss Sawaengdee, nicknamed Joom, hopes to travel to Britain to be reunited with her new husband at his retirement flat in Poole, Dorset, next month. At 52 years his junior, she is also considerably younger than his son of 46 and daughter of 39 and hopes to be like cight-year-old son.

sure that he had prostate problems saw his picture that he was a good-and did not plan to have any hearted man. I knew he was kind hearted man. I knew he was kind "Why do newspapers want to and caring." She and Mr Clegg write about me? I'm not a very

meeting in Bangkok after being introduced through the Siam Introduction Agency in Kent two

The age difference is not so strange here," she said. "I have not . yet told my parents I am married. I was saving that as a nice surprise maybe when they have their first grandchild."

Sorting through newspaper clipwearing that shirt again. I told him She said: "I knew when I first I did not like that shirt, but he is a bit stubborn about it.

Miss Sawaengdee has been living in Bangkok with her sisters since she was 18, washing dishes in a restaurant and working as a waitress earning £100 a month, £30 of

him and he wrote back. I told him about my life and he told me about his life and his children. "We decided before we met that

which she sends back to her family.

She said: "I started writing to

"When he came I met him at the

airport in Bangkok and went with him to his hotel. I knew be was a kind man. I did not go to his hotel

ried after three days and we consummated our marriage in his

"I do not think he is a dirty old man. I love him and I know I can love him more." Borrowing a iournalist's mobile telephone, she called Mr Clegg in Poole, asking in broken English: "Hello Brian. How are you? Why interview you newspapers?"

said: "I don't know what he said, but he sounds all right. When we are together we understand each other, but on the phone I hardly

Student drowned saving life of boy in Africa

By Philip Delves

A STUDENT from Surrey drowned saving the life of a holiday in Malawi, an inquest in Woking was told yesterday. Brett Orr. 18, ignored his girlfriend's pleas not to at-tempt a rescue. She knew he was not a good swimmer. He drowned, having struggled to bring the boy to the shallows

and safety. On August 10 Mr Orr, his girlfriend, Marie Louise Perkins, and her family set up camp on the beach of Nkhata Bay on Lake Malawi. They were half way through a month-long trek across the continent. Mr Orr, from Addlestone, had just completed his A-levels.

The group were having a drink on the beach when Brian Perkins, Marie Louise's father, decided to go for a swim. His daughter and Mr Orr remained on the beach.

Mr Perkins told the inquest that he realised that two African boys who he thought were just larking about were in trouble. He swam over, gathered one of them on to his back and swam for shore.

The next thing I saw was that Brett had got one of the boys," he said. "The boy was wrapped around him. Brett shouted my name and I knew he was in trouble.'

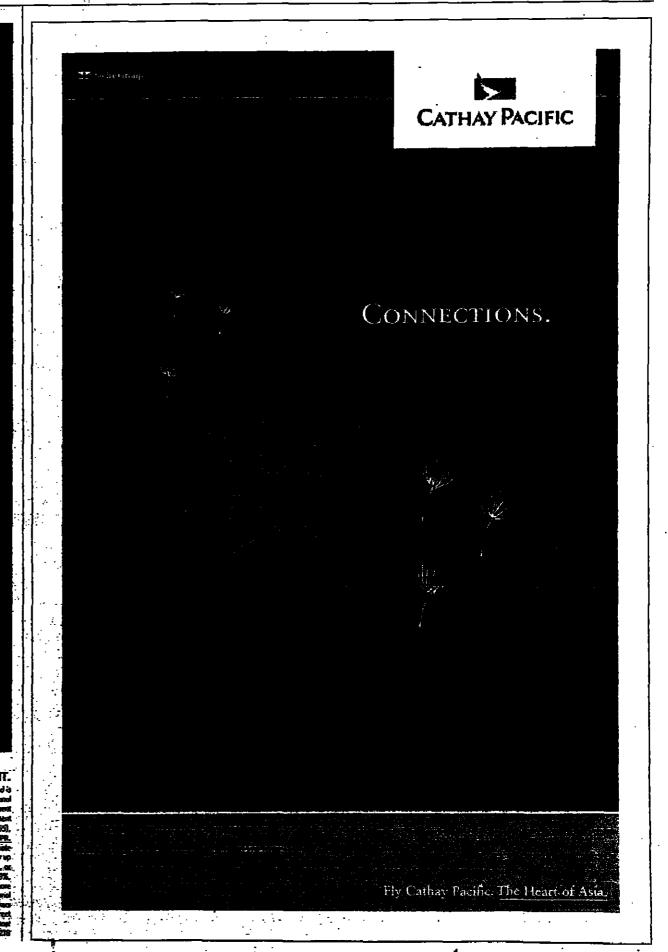
By now, some other African boys had run into the water. "I got the boy off Brett. Then another boy got on to my back and Brett went under. I didn't see him go under but my daughter did." Mr Orr had managed to carry the child he had saved to the shallows.

"Brett put himself at risk to save the boy. He saw me saving one of them and decided he would go and do it as well. Brett could swim a couple of swimming pool lengths, but he was not a competent swimmer." Mr Perkins said. Michael Burgess, the Sur-

rey Coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death. was an accident caused by his own concern for the welfare of others, rather than for himself. I am sure his family must be proud of him," he said.

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and drink extra section



Jonathan Meades asks why restaurant



Roy Lichenstein: last interview

Girl boxer throws in the towel over controversial bout

BY JOANNA BALE

A GIRL who was due to take part in a boxing match with another 13-year-old withdrew from the contest yesterday. Emma Brammer, who was scheduled to fight Andrea

Prime last night, decided to pull out because of the controversy surrounding the bout. She said, however, that she had no intention of giving up

Emma, from Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, said unfair criticism of her and the sport had left her with no option. "I decided to pull out after all the pressure in the media and the things people were saying about me," she said. The critics were writing things like Boxing is not for girls and saying I should grow up and get back to my senses. But I think people have right to choose.

If girls want to box they should box. I think it is a really boxing." The teenage girls were due to have been the first females to contest an authorised boxing bout in Britain. They would have fought up to three two-minute rounds after changes in Ama-teur Boxing Association rules

to permit girls and women aged 11 to 35 to box.

A bout between Dawn

North and Rachel Brooks, both adults, on the same bill at Kay's nightclub in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, was also cancelled. Andrea's father. Ken, of Wigston, Leicester-shire, said his daughter was bitterly disappointed the fight had been cancelled and said the attention had been a strain on both girls. "We feel for Emma because she has borne the brunt of the attention and it is a lot for a girl of that age to take," he said.

Mr Prime, 57, a welder, said he would support Andrea as

boxing."If she wanted to go horse-riding them I would take her horse-riding," he said. "I cannot see any danger at their age and weight."

The promoter of the match, George Burton, said that future female fights would be held in secret "Emma Brammer will be boxing within the next few weeks at a venue outside of this city. We are not saying where it will be held because we do not want a repeat of all this fuss and

Rob Robertson, chairman of the Amateur Boxing Associ-ation, said he was disappoint-ed about Emma's decision to pull out. "I find it very sad that a young women has been prevented from expressing her right to choose her sport because of some of the aggressive interviewing that has



Teenage boxer Emma Brammer says she will continue to fight despite setback

Footballer aged 10 is banned for violence

By PAUL WILKINSON

A BOY aged ten has been disciplined by football au-thorities for allegedly taking a swing at a policeman referee ing a junior match.

Anthony Bird, who was

given a five-month suspended: ban by the West Riding County Football Association, is: thought to be the youngest footballer in Britain to face. disciplinary action.

Anthony, who plays centres! half for Armthorpe Rovers. Under-lis in the Doncaster and District League in York, shire, was ordered off in the first half of a game at Sprotbrough near Doncaster

He appeared before a threeman disciplinary hearing. along with adult offenders, at which officials warned him that the ban would be imposed

if he offended again.
Yesterday his parents accused them of over-reacting Steve Bird, his 34-year-old father, from Armthorpe, said. his son was "hard but fair". However, he said the matter. should have been dealt with at:

good sport and I shall carry on long as she wanted to carry on averalles)) There's good news for anyone who wants to use the phone a bit more. BT's 25% off Sale... on extra calls. Your sale period starts from the first bill you receive after 1st October. Over the following three months you will get 25% back from any extra calls made over your average call bill. (You will receive a letter giving you details of your average bill.) This will count on top of the 25% discount you can get if you're a member of Friends

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Gourmet guide warns against rural dining

BY ROBIN YOUNG

ONLY three British restaurants meet top international standards, according to the latest Good Food Guide, published today. The guide also tells country house restau-rants, which once led British cooking, that they are "dino-saurs" facing extinction

because they are too stuffy. It says that vigour and excellence in restaurants are a cause for celebration, but that it is now chefs in towns and cities who capture the excite ment of eating. Some country house restaurants are too formal and most wake up to the importance of casual eat-

ing and competitive pricing.

The three establishments that "can comfortably stand comparison with the stiffest international competition" are Chez Nico at Ninety Park Lane and La Tante Claire in London, and the remote Altnaharrie Inn, near Ullapool in the Highlands. They get ten out of ten in a new rating system introduced in

the guide's 46th edition.

Nine out of ten, denoting they are "highly individual and display impressive artistry", is awarded to Aubergine in Fulham, southwest London, Gidleigh Park at Chaglord, Devon, and the Waterside Inn at Bray, Berkshire, Marco Pierre White, awarded three Michelin stars, does not feature in the guide because he has moved venues.

A further 17 of the 1,300 places in the guide get eight out of ten ("worth a special effort to visit'). The Capital Hotel's restaurant is the only one in London. Others include such long-honoured names as the Box Tree at Ilkley, west Yorkshire Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons at Great Milton, Oxford

HOT FAVOURITE

Britain now spends more than £5.5 million a day in Indian restaurants, according to the 1998 Good Carry Guide. More than 2.5 million diners_visit curry houses every week, the book says, spending an average of £16 a visit and more than £2 billion a year. 8,300 curry restaurants and 6,500 pubs that serve curry meals. Curry has replaced fish and chips as the nation's favourite food, with 18 per cent consuming curry against 16 per cent cating fish and chips, the guide says.

Llanddewi Skirrid in Monmouthshire. More recent entries include the Merchant House, Ludlow, Shropshire, the Fat Duck at Bray (the only town or village outside London with two top ratings) and Winteringham Fields at Winteringham, Lincolnshire Many big modern restau-

rants credited with improving London's catering, including Sir Terence Conran's Mezzo and Bluebird, and Oliver. Peyton's Atlantic Bar and Grill, receive only four marks. The guide notes pressure on kitchen and waiting staff as more "mega-restaurants" open. Waiting staff frequently have no training or experiat a well-known London res-'factant might be paid as little as El an hour, plus tips.

The Good Food Guide 1998

Food and Wine, pages 35, 36

(Which?, £14.99)

BEST IN EUROPE

Prized restaurant to be prosecuted

ONE of the new Good Food Guide's most highly rated restaurants has learnt that it is facing prosecution by health officials.

It is alleged that inspectors found salmonella in a mayonnaise at 21 Queen Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, which, the guide says, serves "the best food in the North-East". It was awarded eight out of ten.

It has previously won restaurant of the year awards from the AA and Decanter magazine, and has stars or equivalent awards in the Michelin, Egon Ronay_and Ackerman guides. Terry Laybourne, the owner and Ackerman '

It's good to talk

chef, confirmed yesterday that he had been served with a summons.

Douglas Fox, Newcastle City Council's food safety manager, said: "We began an investigation after a customer complained of food-poisoning symptoms." The case will be heard later this month by Newcastle magistrates.

Mr Laybourne said: "Everyone involved with the restaurant is very upset by this because we have worked hard to: build up our very good reputation." Tim Hibbert, Newcastle's head of public health said: "Restaurants should " only pasteurised eggs."

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Hotel's fall into sea blamed on council

Owners win court fight for £2m compensation, reports Michael Horsnell

in which a clifftop hotel fell 150ft into the sea four years ago was blamed yesterday on the failings of a local council. in a High Court judgment that will alarm local authorities in areas of coastal erosion and place a new duty on landowners, the owners of the four-star Holbeck Hall Hotel at Scarborough won a fight for compensation, which is expected to total more than £2.million.

. The 29-bedroom late Victorian hotel and its extensive grounds, owned between the wars by the family of the actor Charles Laughton, slipped into the North Sea between June 3-6, 1993. Guests had been moved out

Judge John Hicks, QC, sit-ting as an Official Referee, ruled that Scarborough Borough Council was in breach of its duty of care to maintain the supporting land and the undercliff it owned between



John and Joan Turner, who brought the case

the names of John and Joan Turner, who own the English Rose Hotels group, though their insurance claim has already been settled. The hearing was effectively brought by their insurers, Cigna Insurance Co of Europe, who sued for damages. Figures have still.

rell, solicitor to Ciena, said after the case that damages, interest and costs would ex-

ceed £2 million. Mrs Turner said that she had been traumatised by the landslide which brought about the demise of the mock-Tudor building.

in 1930. She said: "I spent ten years of my life at the hotel and I miss that beautiful building. I just remain grate-ful that no lives were lost."

The judge dismissed a claim in which Scarborough had in turn blamed its technical ad-visers, the site investigation company Georechnical Engineering (Northern), which had been commissioned to check the stability of the cliffs. The judge said the council must have been aware, from the history of cliff falls and remedial works along the coastline of the hazards.

He said he was satisfied the council did not act in accordance with all the company's findings. Some works were carried out in 1989, but they were "wholly inadequate", the

judge said. Scarborough is on a 40-mile stretch of Europe's fastest eroding coastline which would cost millions of pounds to control. But the judge said the



Slipsliding away: the Holbeck Hall Hotel in Scarborough fell 150ft into the sea in 1993, leaving a trail of debris

sured duty of care" to the hotel

John Trebble, the council's chief executive, said later that the judgment would have farreaching consequences for landowners if it were not overturned, and that an apEmphasising that the council was involved only because it owned adjacent land, he said: "The judgment breaks new ground as it seeks to create a new duty on landowners, the quite startling, based on very nebulous principles."

porting Scarborough council. We are very concerned. Anyone who owns land in these circumstances could now find themselves being taken to court."

Government Association, said

later that it would be studying

the judgment closely and sup-

Since the collapse, scientists

have said that cliffs on the East Coast should be left to crumble into the sea to help to save beaches and farmland and to detend cities from flooding. They believe the collapse was part of a process that is beneficial to the environment and that coastal pro-

Chocolate bar bubbles inspire new rocket fuel

By NICK NUTTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A GROUP of space enthus-search assistant at the Univerbubbles in Aero chocolate.

Aerated Solid Propellant, or based on pure oxygen." with the Space Quest Foundation, set up in Newcastle upon

fuel's inventors, said yesterday: "The big boosters on the space shuttle use a solid fuel made from an oil-based slurry. and powdered oxidisers like ammonium perchlorate. These onders are very volatile, which has safety implications, and are very expensive at around £400 a tonne.

"Our fuel costs about a tenth of the shuttle's. The fuel for each of the space shuttle's two motors costs between \$30 and \$40 million every launch. Using our fuel would cost between \$3 and \$4 million, saving them \$50 to \$60 million on each mission."

iasts have developed a low-sity of Northumbria, said that cost rocket fuel inspired by the the foundation tried to encourage schools and pupils to get They believe the fuel, which will power a 7ft rocket from a launch pad in Yorkshire at the weekend, could dramatically involved in science and technology. "One of our projects is to build and launch a series of small rockets. Because of the cut the costs of launching costs of solid fuels, we decided to try and design our own,

Asprop, is the brainchild of a . The problem they faced wa team of scientists, engineers that oxygen cannot be easily and rocket enthusiasts linked mixed with the slurry. Then about seven months ago. I was eating an Aero chocolate bar and was looking at the bub-Derek Willis, one of the bles I wondered whether it would be possible to force compressed oxygen into the oil-based slurry.

The technique, which the foundation has patented, involves pumping the oxygen into the sturry at 3,000lb per square inch, creating billions of microscopic bubbles. A resin hardener is mixed in to solidify the fuel, which can then be put into a rocket motor

Mr Willis said: "So far over 50 static tests have been carried out to check the fuel's reliability and this weekend it will face the ultimate test when it is used to power Space

Mr Willis, a former re- Quest I."

to hell with it,





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come on. it was pretty tight

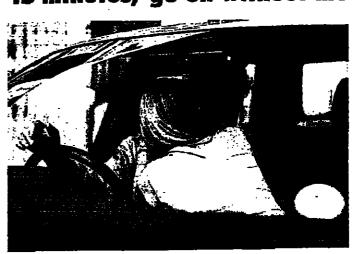
yep, it was an amazing display of sheer parking genius.

I didn't want to scuff the wheels, actually

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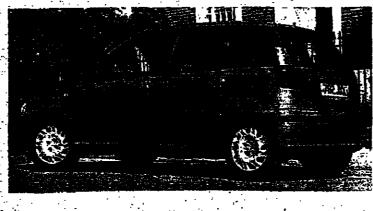
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restaural prosecule

Young offenders to face their victims in court

James Landale on the Home Secretary's plan to reform

the 'secret garden' that is the juvenile justice system

YOUNG offenders will have to face their victims in court under changes to the youth justice system an-nounced by the Home Secre-

Jack Straw said that young thugs should be made to see how much suffering their crimes cause, and that victims should be able to see justice being done. At present victims are kept away from youth courts unless they are required as witnesses.

In his speech to the Labour Party conference in Brighton, Mr Straw also announced plans to combat racist violence. The forthcoming Crime and Disorder Bill will create offences of racially motivated violence and racial harassment. But Mr Straw went further, saying that criminals would face tougher sentences for other offences if a racial motive was proved. Offenders could face an extra two years in jail if they "demonstrated racial hostility at or around the time of the basic offence".

Specifically, there will also be a statutory duty on the courts to treat racial motivation as an aggravating factor when they are passing sen-

the assets of suspected top

crimimals without waiting for

a criminal conviction are being studied by the Govern-

ment, Jack Straw revealed

yesterday (Stewart Tendler

Mr Straw told the confer-

ence that confiscation orders

against criminals were still

yielding only £8 million a

year from multibillion-pound

drug trafficking rackets. Pros-

ecutors and courts needed

tougher powers and, he said.

and the Government was now

considering wider powers



most despicable of all crimes.' the Home Secretary said. They strike at the heart of a decent society. Those who commit racist crimes should expect severe punishment."

in a tough message to people calling for the legalisation of soft-drugs, he said: "We will not decriminalise, legalise or legitimise the use of drugs." Heckled by a ione delegate, he added: "At a time when we are trying to limit and control the use of alcohol and nicotine, how can we possibly justify making it lawful to experiment with other kinds of dangerous

drugs?"
Mr Straw said that Britain's youth courts had become a "secret garden" where offenders' names were never published and where victims

Prime Minister and Mr Straw

have asked for reports on

powerful legislation used

against organised crime and

drug traffickers in America and Ireland. Any change

would take into account the

need to protect civil liberties

but ministers believe that

hitting criminals' bank bal-

ances would be an effective

way of stifling serious crime.

In eight years the courts have confiscated £100 million.

but ministers believe that this

is a fraction of the proceeds of

Straw targets profits

of suspected crime

late next year at the earliest. On Wednesday Labour delegates passed a motion demanding a new charge of corporate manslaughter. Calls for company prosecu-tions have followed tragedies such as the Kings Cross fire in 1987 when 31 died, the Zeebrugge ferry disaster in the same year when 188 people died, and the Clapham rail crash in 1988 when 35 people

their attackers. "This system should be there to work for the

victim and the public. We

must afford much more dignity to the victims of crime and give them a chance to see

iustice dispensed on their be-

half. I can therefore announce

that we will be encouraging

youth court magistrates to

allow victims into their

would contain strong mea-

sures to combat persistent juvenile offenders by cutting

court delays and giving magis-

Speaking earlier on BBC Radio 4's World at One, Mr

Straw confirmed that he was

considering the creation of an offence of "corporate man-

slaughter", which would allow

the prosecution of company

directors after disasters

caused by negligence.

Mr Straw said that many

countries had laws under

which company directors could be convicted if their

negligence caused a huge loss

of life. "In this country, we

don't have those provisions

effectively on the Statute Book," he said. "There's a

strong argument for having

The proposal is unlikely to

come before Parliament until

trates new powers.

He added that the Bill

courts."

However, a spokesman for the Society of Personal Injury Lawyers said: "In a modern corporation, you have many levels of management and it's almost impossible to find the one person who can be said to be responsible."

Leading article, page 21



Lauren Booth urging MPs to support a ban on the "barbaric" sport of hunting

CHERIE BLAIR'S half-sister, Lauren Booth, made her debut on the political stage to speak out against hunting at a fringe meeting in

Ms Booth, 28, who is a former model, described the sport as "barbarie" and urged MPs to support the Private Member's Bill being put forward by Mike Foster, Labour MP for Worcester, which would ban hunting with dogs. Last week she said that the only reason that hunting had not already been banned was that it was the hobby of the rich.

Ms Booth is the daughter of the actor Tony Booth, Mrs Blair's father, who separated

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Interest

Free

Cherie's sister speaks

on fringe

was a child. The meeting, on Wednesday, was held to launch A View to a Kill, a video film being sent to every MP. Yesterday Ms Booth said that she did not clear her appearance with either her sister or her brother-inlaw, the Prime Minister, "It's totally down to me. I don't

discuss every decision I make with them." Mr Foster's Bill is due to have its second reading in the Commons on November 28. Although Labour has a manifesto commitment to allow MPs a free vote on

whether hunting should be banned, ministers fear that the Bill will disrupt their busy parliamentary timetable. Opponents are likely to table hundreds of amendments to delay its passage without government support it will not reach the The Prime Minister is

personally opposed to hunting, but other senior ministers do not support a ban.

Cook courts France in bid for arms trade code

AND NICHOLAS WATT

BRITAIN and France could join forces to press for a Europe-wide code of conduct on arms sales, Robin Cook told the Labour conference vesterday.

The Foreign Secretary said he had invited the French government to work alongside him is securing rules that would be followed by every European country. The idea had been welcomed by the French Prime Minister, Lione Jospin, who said he saw "only advantages" in supporting the proposals.

Mr Cook, who was one of the few Cabinet ministers to be given a standing ovation, said that he had promised before the election that a Labour Government would not allow the export of arms to countries where people were repressed or which were guilty of mili-tary aggression. Those criteria had been put in place as part of the Government's commitment to an ethical foreign policy and they were having

But he said that the Government must protect the jobs of the 400,000 people who worked in Britain's defence industry. "We have a duty," both as a Government with a commitment to the British economy, and as a Labour movement which includes the unions who represent those

workers." Later the Labour leadership defeated a call for the Trident nuclear missile system to be scrapped. Ministers were delighted after delegates voted against the left-wing motion by 56 per cent to 44 per cent.

The issue offered the last chance of an embarrassing conference defeat for the party leadership, which used to be an annual occurrence on nuclear disarmament. The vote came at the end of a lengthy and heated debate in which George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, said-that-scrapping Trident would break one of Labour's election

Trimble shows little

faith in talks success



export controls

clear manifeso pledges just after we had been elected would mean making exactly the same mistakes as the Tories. And see what price they paid at the ballot box." . Mr Roberston said that "18 long years of opposition" had

taught him that the British people will elect only a Gov-ernment they trust with the country's defence. "These are solemn pledges which you made, we made and which the party made, and they are pledges which I for one have no intention of breaking. The British people have kept faith with us - we must keep faith with them.

Clare Short, the Internation-Development Secretary. dismissed claims that scrapping Trident would save £5 billion. She said: "As I said last year, it simply is not true that significant money can now be saved by decommissioning Trident."

Left-wingers won strong applause for their calls for Trident to be scrapped. Cherry Mosteshar from Oxford West and Abingdon said: "We still use our workers as an excuse to line the pockets of the arms dealers. We do not need Trident and we certainly cannot

Trident was costing Britain £1.5 billion a year, which she said would be better spent on public services. "I am asking my Government, the Government I prayed for for 18 years, to make a bold stand in front manifeso pledges. of the world and say we now He said: "Breaking our know what ethical means." of the world and say we now

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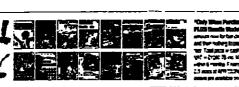
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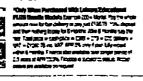
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Minister requests easing of beef ban

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

NEW proposals for lifting the European Union ban on British beef were submitted to Brussels by the Government

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, told the conference that he was asking that meat from all cattle born after August I last year should be exempt from the ban. "Since that date the UK has

enforced very strict controls to make sure that feed does not contain meat and bonemeal. through which infection can be carried. Tests have confirmed their effectiveness", he

"For animals born after August 1, 1996, the only known possible risk of BSE [mad cow] disease is through maternal transmission [from cow to calf]. So we are also today proposing the compulsory slaughter of all offspring from BSE-infected cows born on or after that date."

Dr Cunningham said he would continue to work for a complete lifting of the ban.

TODAY'S AGENDA Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, will lead a debate on Scottish and Welsh devolution, followed by a debate on the perty constitution. John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, will wind by the conference with a speech.

BY NICHOLAS WATT. POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT DAVID TRIMBLE visited the Labour Party conference yes-terday to sound a pessimistic note on the chances of Ulster's

political parties reaching greement in the Stormont Speaking at a fringe meet-ing attended by a leading member of Sinn Fein, the

Ulster Unionist leader criticised the Government for inviting "terrorist gangs" to the negotiations and for appeasing republicans. Weeks after becoming the

first Ulster Unionist leader since the 1920s to sit down with Sinn Fein, Mr Trimble gave warning that the prospects of agreement were not very high. "Very few people expect there will be an agreement in this process," he said. "I am not overly optimistic. There is no point in talking things up if you are going to be-

He insisted that he was committed to the talks process, but said that there was "nothing sacrosanct" about the present arrangements. The talks process is a means to an end. The important thing is the end. The present means may or may not work."

Mr Trimble, who shared a platform with Paul Murphy, the Northern Ireland Political Development Minister, gave a blunt illustration of the polit- Turning to Mr Murphy he



Trimble attack on "appeasement"

ical risks he is taking by negotiating with Sinn Fein. He quoted a recent opinion poll in Northern Ireland which showed that only 50.5 per cent of Unionists agree with his decision, while 49.5 per cent disagree.

The depth of opposition to Mr Trimble was underlined earlier this week when up to 1,300 hardline Unionists attended a rally in Belfast to protest. The rally was attended by the Rev Ian Paisley, the leader of the Democratic Unionists, and Robert McCartney, the leader of the United Kingdom Unionists, who have withdrawn from the talks in protest at the presence Mr Trimble said that there

were good reasons for Unionists to fear the talks process.

people to bring guns to the democratic table. People are concerned that they are simply seeing a process of appearement and wondering where it Mr Trimble received a po-

lite, but unenthusiastic, reception when he became the first Ulster Unionist leader to share a platform with a Labour Northern Ireland Minis ter. Most of the questions came from Labour activists whose sympathies lay with the nationalist community. The meeting was attended by Francie Molloy, a member of Sinn Fein's National

Mr Murphy praised Mr Trimble for sitting down with Sinn Fein. But the minister, who has been given the nick-name "Murph" by Mr Trimble, emphasised that the talks would be difficult.
There will be a bumpy ride ahead, but it is right that there should be," he said. "They would not be proper negotiations if there was not."

The Government hopes that the political parties will reach agreement by next May. If that happens, the agreement will be put to the people of Northern Ireand and the Irish Republic in two separate referendums

The agreement will be passed only if a majority of people in Northern Ireland

Brown backs Short's job battle

BY PHILLIP WERSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

CLARE SHORT has won the support of Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, in her battle to stay in the Cabinet.

The International Development Secretary is one of a handful of ministers in the spotlight as Tony Blair comes under pressure to bring forward a reshuffle to next month. Ms Short infuriated Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, Downing: Street and other ministers in August when she accused the Foreign Office of trying to undermine her.

Her attack appeared in a Sunday newspaper interview on the day that Diana, Princess of Wales, died. But for that a storm would have ensued that might have led to Ms Short's dismissal at. high in the Government for him to move the time, according to several ministers.

Some of Mr Blair's advisers suggested that she had gone too far and that she could not be allowed to go on embarrass-ing the Prime Minister and the Government. Ministers say that she was deeply unwise to have "crossed" Mr Cook, a natural political friend, and that another slip-up would be her last.

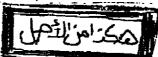
The Chancellor, however, is understood to have thrown his backing behind Ms Short Given Mr Brown's pivotal position as Mr Blair's most trusted and powerful minister, his support may prove to be decisive. Mr Blair, too, is understood to be more tolerant of her than

some of his closest colleagues would like Mr Blair has yet to make up his mind about whether to make a small reshuffle. in the autumn. But there are calls from

to be underperforming. Gavin Strang. the Transport Minister, has been the subject of a whispering campaign alleg-ing that a series of important decisions lie unresolved on his desk because he has difficulty making up his mind. David Clark, the Public Service Minister, has has a difficult start and got into a muddle over the proposed freedom of informa-

Mr Blair hinted on Wednesday that his loyal ally Peter Mandelson could some enter the Cabinet. Despite the minister's difficulties this week it is widespread. expected that his arrival at the top of the Government cannot long be delayed.

One minister who was once thought to be under threat, Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, is understood to have his assured by Downing Street that he will



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Both Pierre BELLON, Chairman and Chief Executive officer of SODEXHO ALLIANCE and J.W. MARRIOTT, Jr, Chairman and Chief Executive officer of MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc. said they expect the planned transaction to create significant value for their stakeholders.

"SODEXHO ALLIANCE, already leader in the European market, also reinforces its worldwide leadership" said Pierre BELLON, "We have been seeking to expand our presence in the attractive North American market. MARRIOTT MANAGEMENT SERVICES is an excellent strategic fit for us and we are excited about the growth opportunities created by the merger. Both organizations share a commitment to exceptional customer service, shareholder value creation, commitment and opportunity for our people".

"The merger provides MARRIOTT shareholders an ongoing stake in a strong and well focused contract services company with excellent growth prospects", commented J.W. MARRIOTT. "With the industry consolidating and becoming increasingly global, we are extremely pleased to be aligned with SODEXHO ALLIANCE, one of the largest and most successfull contract services organizations in the world".

*** SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES, Inc.**

The company will have an 8 member Board:

- 2 nominated by MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc. including William SHAW, President and Chief Operating Officer of MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc.,

- 3 nominated by SODEXHO ALLIANCE, including Pierre BELLON,

- Charles D. O'DELL, currently President of MARRIOTT MANAGEMENT SERVICES,

- 2 independent American Directors selected jointly by the remainder of the Board.

William SHAW will serve as Non Executive Chairman of the Board.

Charles D. O'DELL will become President and Chief Executive and Michel LANDEL, currently President and Chief Executive Officer of SODEXHO NORTH AMERICA, will become Executive Vice-President of SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES.

Charles D. O'DELL and Michel LANDEL said "SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES will be the top provider of contract services to the corporate, healthcare and education markets in

North America. Our clients will benefit from the combination of the best food programs and operating systems of the two separate companies, as well as the broader range of value-added services we will be able to provide".

They are confident that, as a result of the merger, employees of both MARRIOTT MANAGEMENT SERVICES and SODEXHO NORTH AMERICA will see enhanced carreer development opportunities.

"SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES will be well positioned to grow at above-average rates", explained Michel LANDEL, "We expect to capture a major share of new business as more organizations recognise the cost savings and performance gains we can help them achieve through outsourcing". Additionally, Charles D. O'DELL noted "joining with worldwide leader SODEXHO ALLIANCE should create synergies that will enhance our competitiveness and accelerate our growth".

"SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES will have considerable appeal to investors" confided Charles D. O'DELL. "This will be a highly focused company with a leadership position in a growing industry. In addition, SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES should increase its profitability through sharing best practices, combining resources and systems integration".

On a proforma basis for the fiscal year ended January 3, 1997, SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES would have had sales of USD 4.1 billion and earnings before interest expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) of USD 233 million.

Following the merger, total debt of SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES is expected to be USD 1.25 billion.

For SODEXHO ALLIANCE, financing of this transaction will be accompanied by a capital increase of approximately FF 2 billion (USD 330 million).

This rights issue to shareholders will be launched shortly and the Bellon Group has indicated its intention to fully subscribe for its share of such issue.

SODEXHO ALLIANCE will consolidate SODEXHO MARRIOTT SERVICES in its financial statements. The Group will employ more than 212,000 staff with sales on a 12 months proforma basis of around FF 55 billion (USD 9,1 billion).

As a consequence of its stable and predictable cash flow, SODEXHO ALLIANCE will rapidly recover its investment capacity. In 3 years, interest cover should be around 5 and net debt compared to adjusted net worth of around 60%.

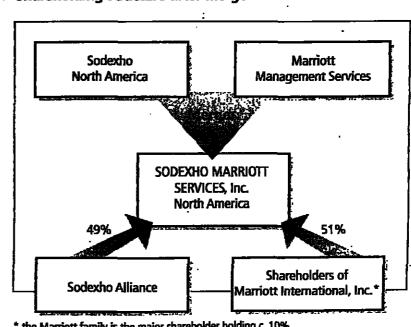
* Other highlights of the transaction

The definitive agreement is subject to customary conditions, including approval by MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc. shareholders, receipt of an affirmative ruling from the Internal Revenue Service on the transaction structure and other regulatory approvals.

In a separate transaction, SODEXHO ALLIANCE will acquire MARRIOTT's food service and facilities management operations in the United Kingdom.

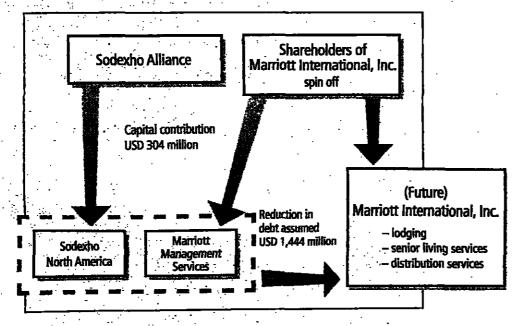
Merrill Lynch and Co. is acting as advisor to MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL. Inc. and Société Générale Securities Corporation is advising SODEXHO ALLIANCE.

Shareholding structure after merger



the Marriott family is the major shareholder holding c. 10%.

Merger organization



COMPANY PROFILES

* MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc.

is the world's leading hospitality company with over 4,900 operating units in the United States and 51 other countries and territories. Major businesses include hotels operated and franchised under the Marriott, Ritz-Carlton, Courtyard, Residence Inn, Fairfield, Towne Place Suites, Renaissance, New World and Ramada International brands; vacation club (timeshare) resorts, food service and facilities management of clients in business, education and health care, senior living communities and services and food service distribution. Total sales for fiscal year 1996 were USD 10.2 billion. The company is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and has approximately 225,000 employees.

* SODEXHO ALLIANCE

is the world leader in food and management services. Operating in 62 countries its 142,000 employees provide services for over 13,500 units in: businesses, hospitals, schools, nursing and retirement homes, prisons and remote sites onshore and offshore throughout the world.

The group is also the world's second largest Service Vouchers and Cards company with a range of products that includes restaurant, gift, gasoline, food and home services voucher, as well as medication and other cards.

Sodexho Service Vouchers and Cards are an innovative payment media that allows companies to offer employees a tax free perquisite.

Sodexho also operates river cruises and is a partner to major international sporting events. Total sales for the SODEXHO ALLIANCE Group exceeded FRF 29 billion (USD 4.6 billion) in fiscal 1997.



For further information, please contact: Raphaël Dubrule - Corporate Secretary Tel.:+33 (1) 30 85 74 74 - Fax: +33 (1) 30 85 50 05 - Web site: http://www.sodexho.com



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Yeltsin hints at another term

FROM ROBIN LODGE

PRESIDENT Yeltsin stirred up speculation about his political future yesterday when he stepped back from an earlier pledge to step down at the end of his term in 2000, saying that it was too early to say.

Asked during a visit to the Volga city of Nizhni Novgorod about the possibility of running for reelection. Mr Yeltsin said that, with three years of his term still to go, it was too soon to make any comment "My supporters forbid me from speaking about this subject.

Only a month ago Mr Yeltsin, who won a second term at last year's presidential elections, categorically stated that he had no intention of running again. His words yesterday were interpreted by opponents as a retreat from that position.

The Constitution limits the President to two terms of office. But supporters of Mr Yeltsin argue that, since he was first elected in 1991, two years before the present Constitution was adopted, his current term will be his first full term under that Constitution and he should be allowed to run for a secand one.

Maoris battle for dead hero to receive VC

NEW evidence has come to light showing that a New denied a Victoria Cross for bravery during the Second World War. His relatives and friends intend to ask for posthumous recognition, citng an unofficial quota system

for the snub to the Maori hero. Lance Sergeant Haane Manahi returned to New Zealand after the war and died in a car crash in 1986.

His cause has been taken up by a committee headed by Sir Charles Bennett, former com-mander of the Maori Battalion, and supported by Tuariki Delamere, a Cabinet minister. who is from the same Te Arawa tribe as Sergeant Manahi.

They say the evidence shows that a committee at the War Office downgraded the recommendation that Sergeant Manahi receive a Victoria Cross to a Distinguished Conduct Medal. The VC is the highest military award for

bravery in action. Records which might have explained why the recommendation was changed by the Victoria Cross committee have been destroyed. However, other records confirm that there was a medal-allocating system at the time.

Norman Bennett, a researcher for the committee campaigning for Sergeant



A quota system denied a New Zealand soldier the medal his gallantry had earned, writes Cathie Bell in Wellington

Manahi's recognition, said his recommendation came just three weeks after Lieutenant Moananui-a-kiwa Ngarimu received a posthumous VC. He believes that may have influenced the committee's

"No other New Zealand soldier in the Second World War to be properly and originaily recommended for a VC had their recommendation downgraded," he said.

Sergeant Manahi's commendation was signed by a number of senior officers, including Major Denis Blundell - later a Governor-General of New Zealand and supported by Lieutenant-General Sir Bernard Freyberg. General Sir Brian Horrocks and Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery.
It came after Sergeant

Manahi led a small band of Maori Battalion soldiers up an exposed rocky outcrop at Takrouna in Tunisia in 1943 to capture an enemy stronghold. Sergeant Manahi, armed with

a sub-machinegun,

launched an attack on 12

truckloads of Italian troops The action was later described by Sir Brian as "the most gallant feat of arms I witnessed in the course of the in March of this year Mr

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Delamere showed Parliament the 1943 army form which had the letters VC crossed out and DCM substituted. At that time it was unknown who had changed the recommendation. However, information which came to light this week showed the change was made in London by the War Office committee which awarded

Mr Delamere, who once scolded his tribal leaders for being too polite in urging the Government to recognise Ser-geant Manahi, said the new evidence justified a fresh approach. He said he planned to meet Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister, to ask for the case to be reconsidered. The Government had been

unwilling to back the claim because it was unclear who had changed the original recommendation and why.



Lance Sergeant Haane Manahi: VC recommendation downgraded to DCM

Pope seeks his 'lost sheep' in Rio visit

follow its normal

The visit is seen as a timely effort to win back "lost sheep" Since the Pope's last visit to

the Roman Catholic Church in favour of a growing number of evangelical churches. Pentecostal sects, Baptist groups and African religions.

force our drive to win back Church," said Cardinal Eugenio Sales, of Rio. "His presence will return many lost sheep to the fold."

Out of 160 million Brazilians, 131 million are Catholic, but 40 per cent say they only go to church once a month. "We have lost too many of our faithful followers. The other churches have gained on us because they have updated some of their views, said Father Jesus Horal, a

The Pope's visit will raise some controversial issues. He is expected to make a speech against abortion, which is illegal but widely practised in

die to aid seabirds

THE Foreign Office and the Royal Society for the Protec-tion of Birds (RSPB) have joined forces to help vast numbers of seabirds to recolonise the remote Atlantic island of Ascension by ridding it of feral cats and rais.

The British dependent territory, hundreds of miles off the African coast, provides the tropical Atlantic's most important sites for breeding seabirds. But cats and rats. introduced to the main island from ships early in the last century, eat thousands of bird eggs and kill the young of wideawake terms, frigate birds and boobies. Now many birds nest only on an offshore rock

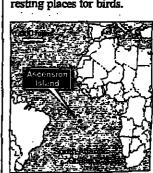
The £1 million eradication programme will take two years and use the latest techniques tested in New Zealand and the South Pacific The RSPB and the Government are sharing the preparatory costs and next year will seek a European Union grant Cats will be killed humanely

and bait laid for rats will contain anti-coagulants that bring a swift death. An RSPB researcher will be on hand to ensure all goes to plan.

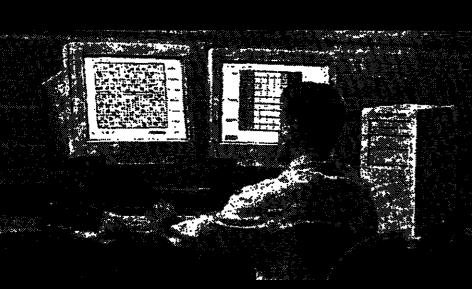
The island, a dependency of St Helena, has no native mammals or inhabitants but is an important military base for both Britain and America. It is the staging post for all military flights to the Falklands, and the vast runway, carved between volcanic ing strip for American spaceshuttle flights. The island also has a relay station for BBC

World Service transmissions. The rat-killing programme is the biggest yet attempted and, with the removal of the wild cats, will bring an immediate increase in masked boobies and, in the long term, will help red-footed boobies, down to only a few dozen breeding pairs. Smaller birds such as shearwaters and petrels, almost extinct in Ascen-

Britain's 13 dependent territories, mostly remote islands, are valued increasingly as breeding sites and migratory resting places for birds.



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FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN RIO DE JANEIRO THE Pope flew to Rio de Brazilians have abandoned

Janeiro yesterday for a fourday visit to the largest Roman Catholic country, seemingly on a "mission" to win back millions of Brazilians who have in the past years defected to emerging evangelical churches and Pentecostal

During the flight he quashed speculation that the late Mother Teresa would be put on a fast track to sainthood, saying the process would course.

The ageing and ailing Pope will have to brave tropical heat and high humidity levels when he presides over ceremonies in the Maracana football stadium and on Rio's threemile Flamengo Beach, where he will celebrate Mass for about four million people.

Brazil in 1980, millions of

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'Amsterdam signing clears euro decks

FAINT praise was the order of the day when ministers yester-day signed the European Maastricht's successor is held to have Union's new Treaty of Amsterfailed in its main task of revamping the dam, a text deemed modest enough to avoid the dramas EU to prepare for new members from over national ratification that nearly scuttled its grander predecessor from Maastricht. East Europe, Charles Bremner reports As some 200 Dutch anar-

mits the EU to joint action to

With the end of British objections, the treaty also takes the Social Chapter fully inside the EU's basic constitution. Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, called the treaty an important step forward, but added: "We still have some work to do."

The seeds of trouble for Britain were sown when the Government was forced to retreat this summer in a quarrel over what had been

Kinkel: said more work

agreed on border controls. London thought it had won the right to opt into border-free travel, should it wish. after a majority vote from its partners. With an eye on Gibrahar, Spain insisted on a unanimous backing. In Brussels this week Peter Caruana, Gibraltar's Chief Minister, said that gave Spain a potential veto:

Testimony to the sour taste left by Amsterdam came with this month's declaration appended to the official text by Belgium, France and Italy. This states that the leaders failed to prepare the Union for enlargement, notably by re-vamping the Commission and extending majority voting among member states, and calls for a new treaty before

more members join.

EU leaders are optimistic that the treaty's mild advance to deeper European integration means Danes will not repeat the rejection they inflicted on Maastricht in 1992, requiring renegotiation and a second vote the next year. A treaty crisis would be a big distraction from monetary union, the fruit of Maastricht which towers over all other EU preoccupations.

Danes in favour of the treaty, but passions over Europe could be raised at the time of the spring referendum as it may coincide with the choice of single-currency members. The need to clear the decks

for the euro, due to be launched in January 1999, was one reason why more federal-minded leaders backed away from a fight at Amsterdam. Fear of famning German misgivings over the euro was apparently behind the resis-tance of Helmut Kohi, the German Chancellor, to the extension of centralised EU powers over immigration and

The conclusion of the two laborious years of negotiations is welcome timing for Britain, which takes over the EU presidency from Luxembourg in January. Tony Blair and Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, want an end to squabbling over institutions and to see the EU's focus firmly on jobs and "the people".

For EU buffs, the Commission has put the full text of the treaty, along with the newly modified treaties of Rome and Maastricht, on to its Internet

For simplification drafters have renumbered the hundreds of existing treaties' articles, angering officials, lawyers and diplomats who have spent years learning them by heart. Their shorthand involves referring to key articles by number.

Somali model to join UN campaign

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

WARIS DIRIE, a circumcised Somali nomad who became a Pirelli calendar giri and supermodel has been appointed a special ambassador for the United Nations campaign against female genital mutilation.

Miss Dirie, who believes she is now 29, was one of 12 children in a nomadic family in the Somali desert. At the age of five she had her clitoris removed with a dirty razor and her vagina stitched up. Her parents announced: You have bad things between your legs and they have to be removed."

The future model ran away at the age of 13 when her father tried to marry her to a 60-year-old man in exchange for five camels. An uncle, then serving as Somalia's Ambassador to Britain, took her to London as a maid. She got a job scrubbing floors at McDonald's and went to night school, but was spotted by a photographer and went on to a modelling career. The UN estimates that

circumcision has been performed on more than 130 million girls and women in Africa and the Middle East, and says more than two million are at risk every year. Miss Dirie, who lives in

New York, recently had a child and is engaged to a jazz



Waris Dirie, a victim of female circumcision, is to lobby against the practice

Nato bill splits Britain and US

FROM MICHAEL EVANS IN MAASTRICHT

chists scuffled with police out-

side Amsterdam's royal pal-ace, Douglas Henderson, the Minister for Europe, joined foreign ministers from the

other 14 states in giving a send-off to the 312 articles

produced by EU leaders in

June. The ceremony opens the

way to ratification next year

by national parliaments in all

states except Denmark, Portu-

gal and Ireland. The Govern-

ment is expected to call for a

Jacques Santer, the Com-

Commons vote in the spring.

mission President, led yester-

day's effort to give the best

gloss to a treaty widely deemed to have failed in its

main task of revamping EU

institutions to prepare for new

members from the former

cies, the weaknesses, the gaps," Mr Santer said. "But

one must recognise that im-portant progress has been made since the Treaty of

Maastricht, notably as far as

the citizen is concerned." This

referred to the treaty's creation a future frontier-free

Europe, excluding Britain and

Ireland, and the creation of an

"I don't hide the deficien-

Communist bloc.

WILLIAM COHEN, the American Defence Secretary, warned European governments yesterday to stop pre-tending that Nato expansion vas going to be cost-free.

His warning came as European members of Nato continued to insist that the invitation to Poland, the mean any increase in defence disagreement between America and Europe.

At a press conference at the end of the two-day Nato meeting, Mr Cohen said: "The bulk of the expansion costs will be borne by the three new members. But there will be cost increases for everyone, for the US and for jother Nato members." He said it was essential that Nato ment capabilities.

According to Nato sources Mr Cohen told his alliance

developing into a serious counterparts that he had to convince the United States Congress they had done their sums properly in calculating the real cost of expansion.

Congress would not believe the European argument that the bill for taking in three new members could be met by simply "reprioritising" de-fence budgets, he said. Yet Government's argument. Its case is that Nato expansion £50 million a year but that this can be absorbed within the

Pushkin lovers protest over theme park plan

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S cultural elite has declared war against the young curator of Alexander Pushkin's country estate because of plans to turn the property of the nation's best loved poet into a Western-style theme park. In a move which has

sparked a furore in the press and angry protests from writers and historians. Georgi Vasilevich has disclosed his intention to develop Pushkin's Mikhailovskoe estate into a profitable tourist business, in time for celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the writer's birth in 1999.

The estate, located in western Russia near the city of Pskov, was granted to Push-kin's grandfather, Abraham Hannibal, an Ethiopian, by royal decree and at the time consisted of small villages containing 569 serfs. Push-



Pushkin's country estate, near Pskov in western Russia.

kin's grandfather built the first house and park at the site in 1777 and the writer lived there on and off from 1817, including the years spent in internal exile from 1824-26. He was buried at a nearby monastery after he died in a duel with a French nobleman in

Since then Pushkin has

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become Russia's favourite poet and writer and there are several museums and institutes across Russia dedicated to his life and works. For Pushkin-lovers the Mikhailovskoe estate is the most important.

Mr Vasilevich, 33, argues

that the days of mass Soviet

tourism by schoolchildren and

unions are over. Today the estate has fallen on hard times attracts only about 100,000 visitors a year. His radical solution is to build a complex, including hotels, restaurants and even

saunas for rich visitors and to

turn the existing site into a "model nobleman's estate"

complete with seris, straight out of the pages of Pushkin's own classic Eugene Onegin.

Not surprisingly, the plan
has met with stiff resistance. Sergei Fornichev, a member of the Russian Academy of Sci-

ence, has resigned his seat on the commission overseeing the Pushkin estate in protest. Some senior members of the museum staff have also quit and park-keepers have threatened to use themselves as human shields against bull-

Irina Vrubel, an expert on the writer at the Pushkin Museum in Moscow, said plans for the new estate were fikely to drive away the very Russians who loved the poet most However, Olga Chuzhikova, the deputy director of the estate, said that the plans were in keeping with what the great poet would have wanted. Pushkin, she said, was a very active person. "He discarded the obsolete. He loved life and would have been happy that people enjoyed their visit to his

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US ready to unleash Star Wars laser

THE United States is to go ahead with a plan to test a laser weapon against a satellite in orbit. Within the next few days a laser at White Sands missile base in New Mexico will fire two pulses at a military satellite 260 miles above the Earth.

The aim is not to destroy the satellite, although the laser is believed to be capable of it, but to gather information about its power, pointing ability and the effect of the atmosphere on the beam. "This is to be done for one reason, and one reason alone, to test the vulnerability or potential vulnerability of American satellites to lasers," said Ken Bacon, a spokesman for William Cohen, the American Defence Secretary, after a meeting of Nato defence ministers in Maastricht

In the next few days, weather permitting, Mr Bacon said, the Mid-

Pulses will aim at an orbiting military

satellite in power test, Nigel Hawkes reports

Infra-Red Advance Chemical Laser (Mirad) would fire a one-second burst to locate the satellite and a second burst lasting around ten seconds to see what impact the laser has on the satellite. The laser's target will be the US Air Force Miniature Sensor Technology Integration programme's third satellite (MSTI-3), which was launched in May 1996. The million-watt laser is driven by a

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rocket motor which burns a fuel. ethylene, with an oxidiser, nitrogen trifluoride. Among the combustion products are free fluorine atoms, which are mixed with deuterium and helium just downstream of the combuster. The deuterium combines

with the fluorine to produce excited molecules of deuterium fluoride, while the helium stabilises the reaction. As the deuterium fluoride molecules return to their ground state, they release microwaves, which are reflected by mirrors placed around the

exhaust gases.

The microwaves form a powerful laser beam at a wavelength of between 3.6 and 4.2 microns, which is pointed at the satellite by a beam director. The laser is the most powerful continuous-ly operating laser in America, and has shown its ability to shoot down aircraft in flight. It has blasted five BQM-34 pilotless drones and a supersonic Vandal missile out of the sky.

7. Wind aby The test is the most dramatic demonstration yet of a technology developed under President Reagan's Star Wars initiative. Critics have said that it threatens to reopen the antisatellite warfare race among nations which have observed a de facto moratorium since 1980. Spurgeon Keeny, executive director of the Arms Control Association, has called the test "provocative and wholly unneces-sary". Specialists in arms control have long argued that satellites are a stabilising influence on the arms race. because they provide intelligence about what the other side is doing.

Blinding them by lasers or other sophisticated devices thus risks unsetting the balance and encouraging a new race in which military satellites: "hardened" to protect themagainst attack. But Washington says that its test is purely defensive.

> WORLD SUMMARY

Payout in

cooking

oil case

Madrid: The Supreme Court convicted two former government officials of negligence

and ordered the state to pay compensation of up to

£185,000 to victims or their

relatives in one of the world's

deadliest food-poisoning

cases. About 500 people were killed and more than 20,000

disabled after eating food pre-pared with industrial oil sold

as cooking oil in 1981. Miguel Hernández Bolanos and

Federico Povedano Alonso

were found guilty of negli-

gence for allowing the oil into

Spain. Both received six-year

More face fraud

suspended sentences. (AP)

American faces firing squad in Cuba terror trial

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

charged with promoting CUBA says he is a "highly armed action against Cuba dangerous mercenary" in the pay of Miami terrorists, and and other acts against the when his trial opens later security of the state". He is also accused of distributing today prosecutors have said will ask that he be anti-communist political proexecuted by a firing squad. But in Miami, friends and paganda depicting President Castro as an "assassin" and relatives of Walter Van der calling for a popular uprising. Mr Van der Veer's wife, Nancy Vazquez, has denied

Veer, 46, say he is a "religious romantic". Crazy perhaps, but not a killer. that he was on a terrorist If he is found guilty he could mission in Cuba. Instead, she be the first American to be said he travelled to the island executed in Cuba for more carrying "humanitarian aid" than 30 years. United States and was motivated by "his concern for Cuban children officials are watching the case closely, but have made no and Christian values". official protests. That may be She said she had been because Mr Van der Veer has unable to speak to her hus-

not only admitted the charges:

The [Cuban] Government

is asking for my death. This

does not bother me." he wrote

recently to his wife from jail. "I

am no coward and I have

asked this Government 159

times to please shoot me so

will ask ... for the 160th time at

my trial to be shot ... I hope

they say yes. I do not want to

arrested in August 1996 and

Mr Van der Veer was

live in this world any more."

he says he wants to die.

band since his arrest and had not asked for permission to attend the trial. That could be very dangerous for me," she said, without elaborating. Havana says he was caught in possession of military equipment", including two US Army-syle camouflage uni-

According to the charges against him, "all this represents startup supplies for

issue underwear.

makeup, a helmet with cam-

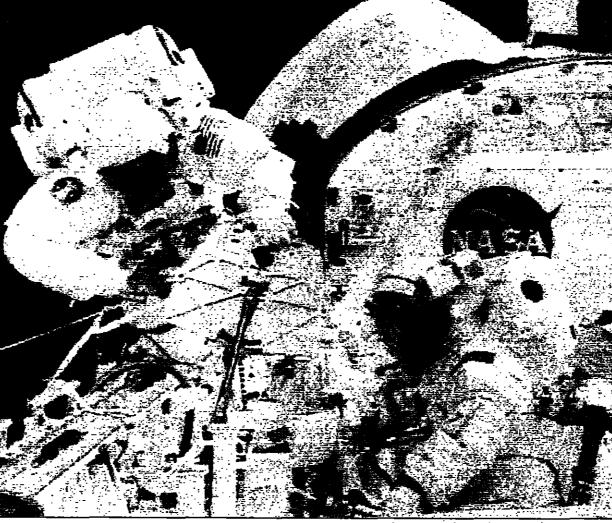
ouflage netting, and military-

people in Cuba whom he would bring together, orga-nise and arm, for an eventual armed uprising". Mr Van der Veer's was allegedly paid "undisclosed sums of money" by anti-Castro groups in Miami to "carry out these acts to

bring down the Cuban state". But friends say Mr Van der Veer, born in Florida with no Cuban ancestry, was a highly independent man obsessed by his quixotic goal of bringing God's word to Cuba.

He made no secret of his desire to topple Señor Castro. In 1989 he tried to drive a souped-up jet ski to Cuba to plant an American flag on a beach and leave behind a "message from God" calling for peace. The craft broke down after about 20 miles and he nearly drowned before he was rescued. Analysts of the Miami exile

community say there are suspicious gaps in the official Mr Van der Veer may be the victim of an elaborate Cuban overnment set-up. Cuban exgroups in Miami are notoriously infiltrated by Cuban state security agents.



tronant Scott Parazynski both in American spacesuits -work in the payload bay of the space shuttle Atlantis near the end of a five-hour spacewalk yesterday (Tom

Spacewalk boost for Mir

Rhodes writes). The two had been ferried to Mir to help to repair collision damage. Their mission in outer space, which included pack-

ing experiments for return to Earth with the British born astronaut Michael Foale in Atlantis on Sunday and testing emergency jet-

Mir's ten crew brought online a computer to replace one that has played havoc with the space station's power management and navigation.

inquiry at UN Geneva: The United Nations is investigating several new cases of large-scale fraud after the successful prosecution last

week of a senior official in Geneva who embezzled £343,000 (Peter Capella writes). Karl Theodor Paschke, the head of the UN's Office of Internal Oversight Services, said that at least three case involving more than £300,000 each were being pursued in several countries. At least one is ready for criminal

Esplomacy fa

temir border

RING HALL

Prodi urged to scrap budget

Rome: Italy's hard-left Communist Refoundation party ended hopes for a quick resolution of a political crisis by insisting the Government's deficit-cutting 1998 budget be scrapped. Refoundation's leader, Fausto Bertinotti, rejected a trades union confederation plea to resolve the crisis. which could topple the Government. He objects to weifare and pension cuts. (Reuter) Leading article, page 21

Mbeki requests an amnesty

Johannesburg: Thabo Mbeki, South African's Deputy President, is seeking amnesty for unspecified crimes during the light against apart-heid, Ronnie Mamoepa, an African National Congress (ANC) party spokesman said. Mr Mbeki is widely expected to succeed President Mandela when he retires as head of

state in 1999. (Reuters) Heat is on for beer drinkers

Villahermosa, Mexico: The scorchingly hot Mexican state of Tabasco is banning the sale of cold beer to help to curtail alcoholism, prompting pro-tests. Sales of warm beer will remain legal. (Reuters)

Korea war 'was close in 1994'

Washington: America came close to declaring war on North Korea three years ago. even preparing a military force, in a dispute over Pyongyang's nuclear programme, according to a new book about the divided Asian peninsula

(Tom Rhodes writes). Washington was increas-ingly anxious about North Korea's ability to create nuclear bombs and the Pentagon had plans in place to launch a full-scale war that could have claimed hundreds

of thousands of casualties. The nuclear dispute was widely reported, but The Two Koreas by Don Oberdorfer, a former Washington Post reporter, claims a new depth to the crisis. "We all thought we were going to war," General Gary Luck, the then US military commander in Korea, is

quoted as saying. He and James Laney, US Ambassador in Seoul, set up an evacuation plan for the 80,000 American civilians in South Koren. Jimmy Carter, the former President, tried eventually successfully - to defuse the crisis in meetings with a Kim Il Sung, then





La Lollo, left, and La Loren, who aim to bury the hatchet with their first joint appearance on film

Fiery spirits of screen lose ardour for feud

FROM RICHARD OWEN .

THE two rival grandes dames of Italian cinema, Sophia Loren and Gina Lollo-brigida, have patched up their long-running feud and plan to star in a film together for the first time a remake of the 1962 dassic Whatever Happened

to Baby Jane? La Loren and La Lollo have been at daggers drawn for most of their careers. But time has reportedly mellowed the two actresses, both noted for their fiery spirit as well as their décolletage. Lollobrigi-

while Loren is 63. Lollobrigida told Italian television negotiations were well advanced for a new version of Baby Jane. She said she thought she would take the Bette Davis role as the malicious and murderous Jane, with Sophia as the apparent victim. Jane's sister Blanche (played by Joan Crawford in the original), a former star

confined to a wheelchair. Lollobrigida said that she and Loren had "let each other know, through mutual friends", that they were willing to work together.

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Mossad abuse of passports angers Canada

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

CANADA yesterday warned Israel over what it claims may have been the "improper use" of Canadian passports by Mossad agents who tried to assassinate a senior Hamas official in the Jordanian capi-

tal, Amman. Khaled Meshaal, the head of the Hamas political office in Amman, was attacked by two men posing as Canadian tourists who sprayed him with a debilitating chemical. He suffered convulsions, but

Suspicions were raised when the two captured would-be assassins refused offers of Canadian consular help in Amman and their two accomplices, also travelling on Canadian passports, disappeared from their Amman hotel. The two arrested men asked Canadian diplomats not to publish their names.

The new diplomatic contro-versy threatened to revive a bitter dispute over Mossad men using false Canadian documents prompted by the publication in 1990 of the memoirs of the Canadianborn former Mossad agent, Victor Ostrovsky, which Israel tried to get banned in Canada

In By Way of Deception, the former Israeli agent spoke of seeing a large number of blank Canadian passports in a Mossad "factory". Mr Ostrovsky wrote: "I saw a large batch of Canadian passports. They must have been stolen. It looked like an entire shipment. There were over 1,000 of

Yesterday Lloyd Axworthy.

the Canadian Foreign Minis-ter, pledged further action against Israel once he meets Fayez al-Tarawneh, the Jordanian Foreign Minister, today in New York to unravel the mystery. Asked if the question of Mossad use of Canadian passports had not been resolved several years ago. Mr Axworthy replied pointedly:

Jean Chrétien, the Canadian Prime Minister, told parliament in Ontario: "It is completely unacceptable to this Government that anybody authorised by another Government will use a Canadian passport to perpetrate

"It was resolved then."

any illegal action."
The Canadian diplomatic warning came as Israel radio broadcast new disclosures from the Canadian press that the Jordanian authorities were

Top Arafat official quits

Jerusalem: Haider Abdel-Shafi, 77, a senior and respected Palestinian legislator, resigned yesterday over the failure of Yassir Arafat to root out corruption inside his Palestinian Authority (Christopher Walker writes). There is rising discontent over the greed and incompetence of Palestinian leaders, some of whom have siphoned off huge sums of international aid. Their actions have

carrying Canadian passports in addition to the two in custody and alleged to be part ed Israel to free Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the jailed Hamas founder, and allow him to fly to Amman Israeli government officials have refused to deny stories that the two

tually be secured.

All four Canadian passport holders are widely suspected to have been part of a Mossad hit squad which mounted a botched operation to poison Mr Meshaal.

prisoners' freedom will even-

They all checked into Amman's luxury intercontinental Hotel two weeks ago, but two have disappeared and diplomats believe they are already back in Israel.

Last night Israel radio re-ported that "members of the [Israeli] intelligence community" and a leading Arab Knesset member, Taleb al-Sanaa, were separately asking for a full inquiry into the reports that the attack on Mr Meshaal was a Mossad opera-tion which went badly wrong. The Israeli Arab politician called on Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, to apologise to the intended victim and his

family. Amman: Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian Authority's President, accompanied by King Hussein, visited Yassin in hospital. Hamas leaders said they expected the sheikh to return home to Palestinian-ruled Gaza within two weeks. (Reuters)

Shortest man in the world dies aged 36



Gul Mohammed, who spent most of his life in the crowded alleys of old Delhi

Dangerous life among misfits was lightened by dream of tall actress

wife, Christopher Thomas writes

who dreamed of marrying a tall actress, has died. He was a familiar figure scampering through the fetid alleys of old Delhi, where he spent most of his life amid a dangerous mêlée of bullock carts, rickshaws and crowds who were for ever treading on him.

He was as much a part of this largely Muslim quarter of town as the bespangled eunuchs who strut about its lanes, or the deformed beggars, the transvestites, and the longbearded holy men proclaiming doom. It world of misfits, unknown to most Delhi-

wallahs be-6 He never cause it seems overcame a ing. Here Gul dislike of Mohammed. children, who 36, was normal. The combullied and motion of the robbed him ? alleys would

whenever he was seen raising his tiny hand, his high voice inaudible above the racket, to try to cross through the warren of alleyways. At 22.5in, he was too short to leap across the open sewers and would have been out of his depth had he slipped into the bigger gullies.

He was carried across these obstacles by whoever was at hand. The people of this poor and outwardly brutish section of town gave their hearts to the little man who lived mostly on handouts but who rose briefly to fame when he was proclaimed the

THE world's shortest man, Guinness Book of Records. The walled city, with so little to be proud of, was thrilled by the celebrity of one of its citizens. Mr Mohammed eventu-

ally moved away from the hazardous turmoil of old Delhi to a less manic, but equally poor, neighbour-hood in east Delhi. His departure was lamented by propped him onto their counters for a free chai and by the eunuchs who were his friends. He chairsmoked all his life and died in hospital after a long struggle with asthma and bronchitis. He never over-

came a lifelong dislike of mocked and bullied him. forcing him to give up school and to begin scratching a living selling Children of-

ten stole from him, but they were too fast to catch and too big to reprimand. Cats. crows and dogs were enemies. too. "I am scared of them," he said.

He often talked to the eunuchs about his dreams because they never laughed at him. To see him on the shoulders of one of these sari-clad castrated men. who prefer to be known as women, strong arms holding him in place, was to see two people brought together by their own oddness, both of them comfortable in this slightly insane backwater of Delhi, where it is normal to be different.

Hotline diplomacy fails to end Kashmir border duel

By Christopher Thomas

THE battle of guns and words between India and Pakistan over Kashmir continued for a third day yesterday, threatening to destroy efforts at reconciliation painstakingly worked out over the past year. The Prime Ministers of both

countries talked over a recently installed hotline, but there was no immediate halt to cross-border fighting, although its intensity decreased. Kashmiri officials said the death of more than 30 Indian civilians had brought home the need to create civil defence committees and civilian bunkers along the boundary, known as the line of control. India claimed that it had

front row seats for £25.

Vidal Sassoon goodie bag.

destroyed dozens of Pakistani Army bunkers and said its forces stopped shooting while. Pakistani troops removed the bodies of 51 soldiers. Both sides are given to exaggeration, but this is one of the worst outbreaks of cross-border conflict in years and emphasises the ease with which the two countries could slip into a fourth war.

Indian and Pakistani troops routinely take pot shots at one another in Kashmir, but the use of artillery has led some Indian commentators to accuse Pakistan of an act of war. The Indian Government, however, is moderating its lan-guage in the hope of defusing a crisis that seems to have been provoked deliberately,

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Clements Ribeiro, Pearce Flooda, Workers for Freedom,

which support Macmillan Cancer Relief, will unveil the

designers' autumn-winter collections and give a preview

of spring-summer 1998 collections. Visitors have the

chance to purchase discounted end-of-season clothes courtesy of BAA McArthur Glen, the designer-outlet

specialist. Every reader who attends a show receives a

Nicole Farhi, Roland Klein and Sonja Nuttall, The shows,

are offered exclusive tickets for catwalk shows at the Natural History Museum, London SW7, between noon

perhaps by "hawks" in the Pakistan Army worried by efforts .in Delbi .and .Islamabad to improve relations.

Inder Kumar Guiral, the Indian Prime Minister, told Nawaz Sharif, his Pakistani counterpart, that he was deeply concerned. The government-run All India Radio described the conversation as

Pakistan said it had protested to India about what it called unprovoked heavy shelling across the line of control. "We deplore this irresponsible act."

the Foreign Ministry said. Mr Sharif said that Pakistan might review its policy al dialogue in view of the "latest Indian attitude".

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British fashion fractables, the fashion fortuns (7.3).

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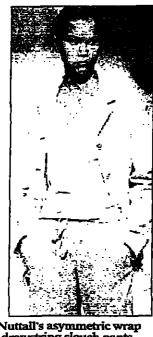
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The wilder shores of chic

London Fashion Week had everything to offer from urban warriors and birds of paradise to sawn-off yashmaks and a swarm of flies. Style Editor Grace Bradberry reports





The new tailoring: Sonja Nuttall's asymmetric wrap skirt, left: Nicole Farhi's drawstring slouch gants



Arts and crafts: stripes and lacework at Clements Ribeiro. left; embroidery and flummery at Matthew Williamson

esigners have some funny ideas about women and nowhere are the fantasies wilder, the visions grander, than in London. This season has seen a stampede of urban warriors, bevies of operatic tarts, and a flock of paradisal birds filling the catwalks. So it was only fitting

that all three should come together for the final show, that of the Welsh knitting wizard Julien MacDonald staging his first catwalk event, in Spitalfields Market.

in Spitalfields Market.

The 25-year-old, whose exquisite designs have featured on the Chanel catwalk, is known for his bejewelled crochet work, harking back to



Julien MacDonald's couture finery, left; aggro chic at Alexander McQueen, top; Hussein Chalayan's beadwork, bottom; Antonio Berardi's divisive American Dream, right

Edwardian opulence. Tuesday night's show began with a surprisingly modern, sports-influenced ready-to-wear collection that owed something to Hervé Leger's elastic body-moulding, with Masai patterned bands criss-crossing the body. This proved to be just a base. MacDonald's instincts are those of the magpie.

Beginning with large black sequins along the hem (echoes of Miu Miu), he gradually loaded his slinky silhouettes with teardrop beads, exotic flora, feathers, fringing and even steel wool. The countre pieces — which sell for about £5.000 — managed to fuse rainforest abundance with a minimalist aesthetic. These

are knock 'em dead dresses for the 1990s Wow Girl.

MacDonald was justifiably one of the week's hot tickets. The others were Hussein Chalayan. Alexander McQueen, Clements Ribeiro and Antonio Berardi, all of whom have emerged in the past five years and have been nominated for Best British Designer at the Fashion Awards.

If one had to attach labels, Chalayan would be the intellectual, McQueen the neopunk, Clements Ribeiro the hunrious Bohemians, and Berardi the Galliano-influenced showman. With the exception of Berardi, whose show was an eclectic adventure from Sicily to New Jersey, Miami and Las Vegas, these designers honed their styles, paring away the extraneous detail to highlight their particular strengths.

ular strengths.
Chalayan, Turkish Cypriot born, and London raised, staged his most conceptual show yet. A string quartet dressed in white boiler suits, played atonal music in a Brick Lane warehouse. The final setpiece was ludicrous but sturning: a model, naked but for an Islamic veil, was followed by five more women in longer and longer yashmaks. Chalayan is a ruminative designer who builds his style season by season. The black dresses with spirograph and maze effect goldwork were exquisite.

hile Chalayan's shows are intended to be an expression of his design philosophy. McQueen's unabashedly are not. The yob couturier, who now designs Givenchy as well as his own label, made his name with shocking "concept" collections. But he's gradually rid the styling of gimmicks. Katy England, the creative director of his shows, scarcely tampered with the brilliant, hardedged railoring, perfectly cut trousers and deceptively simple white dresses. McQueen's urban combat instincts are gradually finding a sophisticated direction — the camouflage colours had a high-fashion feel, while the zips circling the hips of his all-inone trouser and skirt suits dragged Sid Vicious off to finishing school.

Clements Ribeiro also consolidated and defined their



well-established style. Their signature striped cashmere knits came dipped in sequins and glitter, while their apronback minidresses had a minimalist. North European feel.

Opinion was divided on Berardi. The show was spectacular, but afterwards, the word "misogyny" was mumbled by some, offended by the belt-width pelmet miniskirts and dresses split to the waist. But the workmanship was superb, the colours spectacular, and the flowered V-neck

knits will be snapped up.
Orchids, peacock feathers and all manner of plumes and flummery preoccupied designers such as Matthew Williamson. Wrap skirts with jutting, uneven tems featured at Sonja Nuttall, and layering, particularly tunics and split minis over trousers, was everywhere. Nicole Farhii came up with superb slouch pants.

A final word about the alleged new talent of the season. 25-year-old Andrew Groves, who dragged the fashion pack off to a disused bus depot in Victoria. The clothes were ghastly — but the show provided one glorious fashion moment: a model opened her jacket releasing a swarm of flies, no doubt lovingly collected in some dank student bedsit. By the time they emerged, the insects were half-dead and fell at the feet of appalled front-risw ticket-holders, who performed mercy killings with their Guoti heels.

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They can't come back from this. They're becoming a joke'

In our second extract from Anthony Seldon's book he describes how John Major's campaign was derailed by sleaze

17 on his return from Buckingham Palace, John Major walked out of No 10 to announce that the general election would be held on May 1. As he faced the media, he told them that there had been a "dramatic change in the lifestyle of the people of this country ... and that people are looking for change". To combat at the outset what was seen as Labour's strongest card, he declared: "But we are the change, and we will carry forward what we have been doing for the last 18 years . . . I believe this election is winnable ... I think we are going to win." But even then he did not. think the election winnable: if he could have limited it to a Labour majority of 20 or 30, he

would have been delighted. From the start, however, little went to plan: "sleaze" overshadowed the first two weeks. The opening shot was, first Liberal Democrats and then Labour accusing Major of deliberately proroguing Parliament early to avoid the publication of Sir Gordon Downey's "cash for questions" inquiry. The charge captured the headlines and undercut good news" stories, mainly that unemployment had fallen

Labour and Liberal Democrats succeeded in disrupting the first week of the campaign and in implying that the Tory leadership itself was guilty of sleaze by keeping the truth from coming out. When The Guardian ran four pages of evidence submitted to the Downey inquiry, reportedly showing that several MPs

t 12.35pm on March standing for re-election had taken money from Mohamed Al Fayed in return for asking questions in Parliament, more support was given to the belief that the cover-up was to spare the party electoral damage. Major was angered and

upset by the first week of the campaign. By its end, he, Michael Heseltine and Brian Mawhinney were no closer to deciding how to respond to the sleaze accusations. When they realised how badly the campaign had been derailed, the tack shifted from stonewall defence to blaming both the MPs concerned for not resigning and their associations for backing them, a line that found itself in a Sunday Express headline on March 23: "Major wants the sleaze MPs out." By letting such stories get into the press, the party's high command raised the expects tion that tough action would be taken, with charges of lecision when it was not.

In the second week, Allan Stewart quit Scotland's safest Tory sear after allegations of an affair, which overshadowed the best current account trade figures since 1985. Another MP, Tim Smith, quit on March 25 after admitting he had accepted £25,000 from Al Fayed, and a row over trade union rights was swamped. The next day The Sun ran a story about Piers Merchant, the Beckenham MP, allegedly having an affair with a nightclub hostess.

By now, Major, Heseltine and Mawhinney were losing their self-possession. The leadership suggested Merchant stand down, only to be rebuffed by his constituency

SWIFTCALL



association. Attempts to get Neil Hamilton to step aside were thwarted by his Tatton association. Major had so often felt let down by the behaviour of his MPs that he ceased to be surprised by anything they did, but Hamilton's decision to fight on left him speechless, above all because the Hamilton saga was portrayed by Labour both as a sign of Major's weak leadership and of the Tories' poor moral standards.

wo days after Merchant's headlines, Hirst, the Michael Scottish quit over a personal indiscre-tion. At the end of the second week, MORI put Labour 21 points ahead, Harris 24 - the piggest lead at that stage of a campaign since polling began. Meanwhile as Major ad-

dressed 1,100 readers of The

Sunday Times on Tuesday

evening, another political squall was brewing. Central Office learnt that John Horam, a runior Health Minister, had written an address disagreeing with the Tories' "wait and see" stance on the single currency. Mawhinney asked Horam if he would go on television and say he backed "wait and see". Horam said he had already recorded an interview for Newsnight defending his stance.

When Tony Blair was told about Horam he said: "They can't come back from this. They're becoming a joke."

Meanwhile, Major was pondering how to respond to the Government's collapsing policy on European monetary union, especially as he knew the next day's Daily Mail would suggest that up to 150 Tory candidates in winnable seats ruled out a single currency. Before 7.30am, Major was on the telephone to Lord Cranborne and Mawhinney. They felt that they had to scrap their plans to lead on the latest economic statistics at that morning's press conference. Mawhinney agreed that Ma-jor should chair the conference, to heighten the drama. Major told aides he would give his personal credo "hot and

At the morning's meeting before the press conference. Major said that in every election there came a defining Saatchi was asked to film Major's statement, as he wanted to scrap the election broadcast planned for that evening and substitute one of him talking direct to camera, giving the same message on the single currency.

There were three takes, all without a script. The third was chosen, and Saatchi and Mawhinney oversaw its cutting. Broadcast that evening, it was not nearly as fine a piece of theatre as that morning's press conference. One observer likened it to a video of a jaded hostage filmed by his captors. The Daily Telegraph described it, accurately, as "a presidential appeal over the heads of his party".

The motorcade was an hour

late leaving Central Office that morning for Northolt. Waiting for his plane to land at Teesside airport was Baroness Thatcher, due to spend the day with him on the trail. "I do want to be helpful, John," she said. It was an extraordinary meeting of two figures who, between them, had held the

TOWOTH CO. Gay politics: the day John Major met. Sir Ian

of the century, yet had never enjoyed each other's company. caused him during his pre-miership, nor had Norma, They spent the day cam vno sat on the coach pointed! paigning, meeting candidates looking out of the window. The and workers, unveiling a atmosphere lightened tangibly plaque, planting a tree, and when Lady Thatcher left them. visiting the regenerated urban site of famous images of her in 1987 amid post-industrial wasteland. But behind the

bonhomie, the atmosphere

was tense. Major had no

premiership for nearly a fifth doubts about the damage she

● From Major: A Political Life, by Anthony Seldon, to be published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson on October 27, £25, Times readers can buy the book for £21 by calling the Times Bookshop. 0990 134 459

A tale of Faust and the Devil

The harmony between some senior party figures and Maurice Saatchi was also to turn to discord as tensions resurfaced during the last two weeks of the campaign. Saatchi had a script for a party election broadcast called "Faust", after the character who sold his soul to the Devil for short-term gain — and which had as its main character a figure in shadow, who sounded very like Tony Blair. He says that his party has lost many elections, but that he hopes to win this time. Another figure appears in shadow at the door — the likeness is to Mandelson - and says "I'll show you how to win". "Blair" listens as the other says "Tell them you won't put up taxes". "Blair" replies "I can't do that" and the standing figure says "l didn't say you shouldn't put up taxes, but you have got to tell them that you won't".

So it goes on, with the Blair figure goaded into making all kinds of pledges. At the end, with Faust's eyes glowing red, newspapers are shown with headlines such as "Blair promises not to put up iaxes", etc.

Mawhinney rejected the Devil idea completely, but Saatchi kept trying to secure agreement that he should film it. After meeting Mawhinney in his room in the Commons, at which a No 10 aide shouted at him that Major was not interested in it and that he should drop the matter. Saatchi went ahead and had the film commissioned.

7 hen he heard that

not only had

Saatchi made the film, but was showing it to senior figures to gain their support behind his back. Mawhinney exploded. But on seeing it, Lord Cranborne, Major's chief of staff, became a convert, and tried to convince Major of its merits. It was decided to hold a screening, to be Central Office on April 24. Mawhinney was to be the final arbiter. Some present thought it the most chilling and effective party election broadcast they had ever seen, but Heseltine did not like it, for three reasons:

Major was against it; so was Mawhinney; and he himself thought it would prove counter-productive. Mawhinney insisted that Santchi bear the cost of making the film.

The frustration of the Saatchi team was expressed by a person close to them: There were two ways to approach the election. Be a gentleman, as if one were on the Titanic, and avoid being ungentlemanly as you go down. Or say, we are going to win come hell or high water, we'll do anything we need to win. as long as it is legal." The Tory high command could not decide which route it wanted to take.

The Faust episode was the nadir of the relationship between Saatchi and Mawhinney. A showdown be-



Saatchi's demonic poster

stubborn men was inevitable. Their differences had arisen over the harshness of the attacks on Labour and over making Europe an election issue. Mawhinney thought further negative advertising would lose votes. On Europe, Saatchi remained convinced until the very end that a strong attack on the European social model was the key to

Mawhinney's reticence on both issues stemmed in part from personal conviction, but it also strongly reflected Major's thinking. a second "devil eyes" advertisement, showing them peering out from a pair of smiling plastic lips, invoking Blair's ubiquitous grin. The caption was to have been, "What lies behind the



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ARTSOPINION

Derhaps the kindest thing that can be said of the Gowrie Years at the Arts Council brought to a premature curtain on Wednesday by the noble lord's resignation as chairman — is that they were an improvement on the Palumbo Years. Even so, the Arts Council now desperately needs a chairman who is not a paid-up member of the metropolitan "culture club". It needs someone with the courage to ask why millions of British people perceive the arts as being boring, exclusive, pretentious, difficult, silly or irrelevant. or why the arts have been marginalised in state schools; or why so few black faces are seen in

core if tackled seriously. Of course such a boat-rocking radical will never get within a million miles of the job, especially since the appointment is in the gift of Control Freaks Inc - ie. our wonderful Labour Government.

our theatres or concert halls - and

a hundred other awkward ques-

tions that would shake the Arts

Council to its smug, self-serving

AMONG the dozens of percussion instruments required for Thomas Adès's Asyla are sandpaper blocks, a washboard, three large tins and a bag full of metal knives and forks. Of the three pianos, one has its lowest octave muted by a strip of cloth "lightly but firmly" applied to the strings. and another must be tuned a quarter-tone flat. Surely, a

young composer commissioned to write a major work for Sir Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra - who will be performing it in four British concert halls alongside Mahler's Third Symphony during the next week or so - couldn't be having a joke at the orchestra's expense?

In fact, in a strictly serious sense, he is. By giving his pianists and his team of percussionists these extravagant and more than faintly ludicrous things to do, Adès is collapsing the stout-party aspect of the orchestra, making it his own as well as Mahler's. The fascinating aspect of the

Wanted: one boat-rocking radical

But whoever the new chairman is. one priority stands above all others: to build the audience for tomorrow. Whether it is called educational work, audience development or "outreach", it must he the principal aim of every recipient of public subsidy. The new chairman must ruthlessly insist on that.

Then he (or she) must negotiate some formula for spending Arts Council lottery money to promote the arts into schools. Nobody else will. Then the new chairman must somehow lift the pathetic quota of arts programmes on television, if necessary by subsidising many more of them. That's the only way to reach really big audiences.

And then ... no, that's enough impossible dreams for now. One final point, though. If Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, doesn't make it a paid job. Every day millions of pounds pass through the Arts Council's books. To have an amateur heading an organis-ation entrusted with such vast public largesse is crazy.

The news that Harrow School has prohibited its boys from singing "tribal" rugby songs is a sad blow to British culture. As a pupil at a London boys' school in the early 1970s I found that the weekly recital of rugby songs, tribal or otherwise, in the back of the 2nd XV coach on the way home from our latest 40-nil drubbing constituted a substantial part of my musical training, and pretty well my entire sex education.

True, some of the advice so graphically enshrined in their rustic verses - about the congressional pleasures to be anticipated committed in boys' public schools through the centuries, rugby songs are the least corrupting. In fact I find it rather encouraging that, in this age of mindless electronic games, schoolchildren still enjoy nothing better than a lusty rendition of a traditional ditty.

هكذامن رالإمل

RICHARD MORRISON

IN THE ARTS

from a scrum half's daughter, for instance — proved less helpful in later life than I had hoped. Indeed. it led to one or two unfortunate misunderstandings. Nevertheless, Harrow should

ot often does this column shed a tear for employees of The Daily Telegraph. However, my heart went out to

Kate Bassett, second-string theatre critic of that journal, when she reviewed the West End's latest British musical, Maddie. Why? Well, in one of the year's more bizarre "reader offers", Telegraph readers had been invited to finance this show, and some brave souls did indeed back it to the tune of

"So, as you may imagine," Ms

praying that I would like Maddie." No kidding. And guess what? "Mercifully my prayers were answered." How fortunate. Ms Bassett goes on to praise the 'classic Broadway-style numbers". in a story that "touches on complex issues about erotic fantasies".

On the strength of her eulogy, Maddie's backers may now be cracking open the bubbly and waiting for the profits to roll in: from a West End run destined to rival Cats. Out of kindness, then. I feel compelled to draw their attention to other critics' verdicts.
"Balderdash, babble and balo-

ney leading to a dead end," is the headline above Nicholas de Jongh's review in the Evening Standard, which calls Maddie "emotionally vacuous" and "aimlessly ridiculous" before concluding (somewhat unnecessarily, you

may think), "it's a grim night".

The Daily Mail's Michael Coveney decides, a little oddly, to express his feelings in rhyme:
"Maddie is a baddie, my heart it does not gladdie," he writes with girlish giee, before noting that both music and lyrics are "completely undistinguished".

and reme

Meanwhile, the FT's critic is roused by Maddie to the startling observation that "the modern musical is the cesspit of theatre today". Even our own eminently reasonable Benedict Nightingal sadly finds that Maddie's "sophistication level is a bit too low".

So where does that leave the effusive Ms Bassett? Perhaps pondering the fact that the life of a second-string theatre critic is strewn with hidden pitfalls. In the unlikely event that *Times* readers go collectively bonkers and pour their life-savings into some dreadful West End musical, I shall lead the entire Times reviewing team on an extended trek into the Gobi Desert. You can write your own

Joker sounds serious

CONCERT CBSO/Battle Birmington:

score, however, is that far from attempting to create a new sound by blending household implements with the sophisticated instruments we know and love, it presents them in incongruous parallel. From the beginning of the first of the four movements, where an incoherent babble of flattened piano and (more or less) tuned cow bells leads into a superbly coherent melodic line on three horns, there is friction

Occasionally the orchestra disappears; at other points it asserts itself, intentionally or not, in a brief parody of The Rite of Spring, or echoes something by Mussorgsky. But the most characteristic sounds are those like, say, a counterpoint of violins and wind floating over a low murmur of fine but actually indecipherable detail in the percussion and lower strings and brass. This is a work which encourages specula-tion, and which will reward it

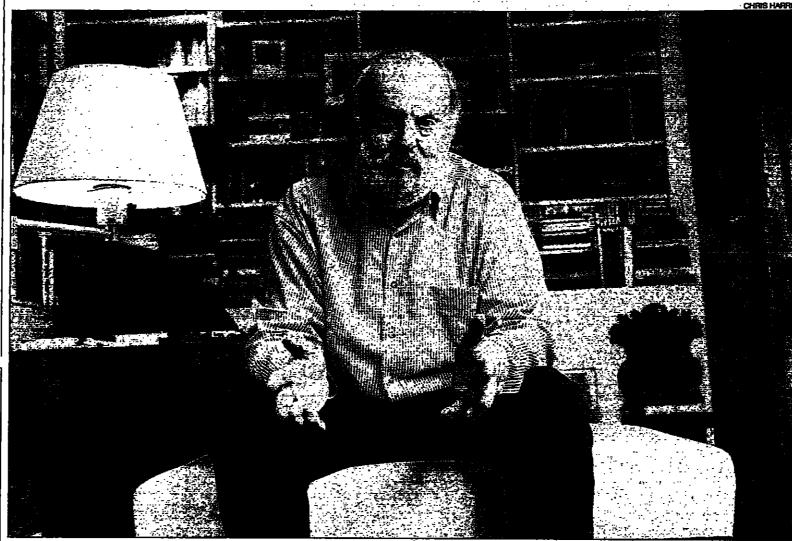
with more and more discover-

ies for several performances.

Only Rattle and the CBSO would programme a complex score like that with a work as long and as demanding as Mahler's Third Symphony. But it was worth taking the risk if only because it inspired a slightly different way of playing (or hearing) Mahler's first movement, where the textural incongruities and contradictions seemed scarcely less new than Adès's.

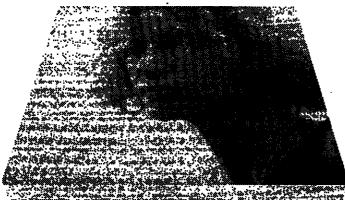
GERALD LARNER

Hugh Whitemore's epic Powell adaptation is about to hit our screens. W. Stephen Gilbert met him



"I knew it was going to work," says Hugh Whitemore, "but I had to cut whole characters, and an entire book disappeared almost completely"

heaven on



elisabeth valletti (mocenti)

Elisabeth Valletti seduces the harp to produce a celestial and impressionistic sound that, through a simple purity, conjures up a sense of inner peace. This is the work of a highly talented and instantly recognisable musician.



was working in the

grand piano department at Harrods. "I'd just failed to be an actor and I was trying to write. I was quite hard up." The store ran a library then, and its policy was that no popular book should be oversubscribed. As demand waned, spare copies were sold off cheap. "And I bought At Lady Molly's for half-a-crown or so. I read it, and thought it was wonderful."

The novel was the fourth in the sequence by Anthony Powell that came to be known as A Dance to the Music of Time. Whitemore read the earlier instalments, and then bought the succeeding eight volumes as they appeared. Powell had begun with A Question of Upbringing, published in 1951. The last book. Hearing Secret Harmonies. appeared two dozen years later.

"I became a writer," continues Whitemore, "and at vari-ous intervals I had an idea that I would like to dramatise the books. But there were always other options, or someone else was doing it. Dennis [Potter] tried. So it slid away from me.

"And then about five years ago I went to see Alvin [Rakoff, the Canadian director) to have a drink and cheer myself up. He said: 'Isn't there something you've always wanted to do?' and I said: Well, yes there is.' So I gave him the books. He said: You can't dramatise these. It's crazy.' Nevertheless he decided to have a go. at

getting them off the ground." Rakoff took the producer role and he and Whitemore pitched the project to the BBC. "My idea was to get away from the old serialisation style, the classic literary adaptation. and try to make the 12 books into four movies." But a year went by with no serious response from the BBC and Whitemore mentioned the project in passing to Channel 4 serials commissioner Peter Ansorge, who responded warmiy at once. Ansorge commissioned a first script, "and then there was a brief flurry from the BBC. I don't understand what's going on at the BBC any more. Is there a drama department? Are they film-makers?"

Happily, Channel 4 was not only keen to have the films but elected wholly to finance them. "Of course this was under Michael Grade's regime," says Whitemore, and his enthusiasm was terrific. But having had all these great plans, when it came to actually writing it I found it extremely difficult. It was like learning a foreign language.

Dancing with a history man

"Once I'd got it down as a first draft. I knew it was going to work. It would take a lot of revision. It was about 500 pages, which is an awful lot of words. I had to cut whole characters. An entire book. Casanova's Chinese Restaurant, disappeared almost

Many dramatisations are undertaken by writers indifferent to or cavalier with the source novel. In this case, Whitemore is a devotee. Might that not be a trap? "The trap is if you feel obliged to be utterly faithful," he says. "When I was younger, I might have thought

bolder. Ideally it should be like theme and variations. You're creating something quite different but at the same time it's

an hommage. Because it was a long, long job, in a weird, arrogant way I almost felt I'd written the books. I couldn't disentangle the Powell from what was in my head. It's almost as if the books were the idea for a film I was writing. And I was able to put some of my own feelings into it. The third film deals with the war. I was a child in the war and I remember

seeing my father clambering

the image with which I start

Whitemore has been a prolific writer for 35 years. He is working on a movie for Oliver Stone that addresses the Cuban missile crisis, and his new stage play, A Letter of Resignation, deals with Harold Macmillan at the time of the Profumo scandal - both actual events of some 35 years ago.

The sense of history informs everything L really enjoy doing." he says. "It has to do with making sense of the passage of time - a lifetime or an age or a century. Powell

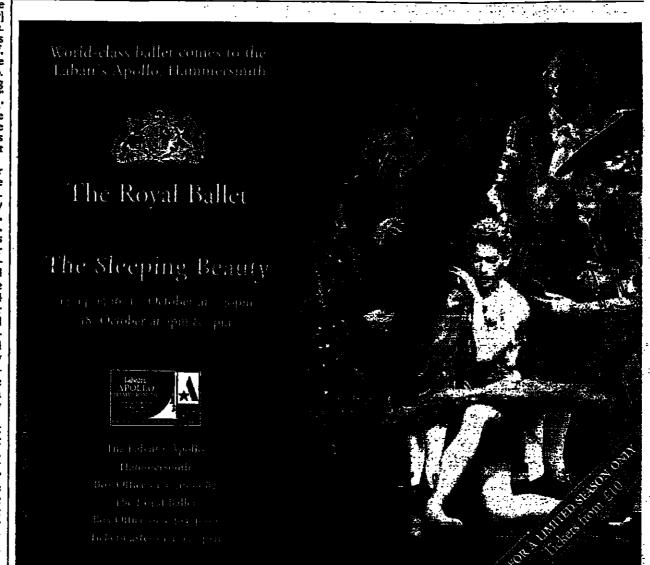
achieved something I always wanted to achieve. He's linked emotion and experience in an historical context."

Whitemore takes a second credit on the four films, as executive producer. "It was an insurance policy," he says. "I did it in case it all went wrong. I thought 'I'm never going to do anything as big or as wonderful as this again, so I want to make sure everything is as I want it to be.' I never dreamt it could be as smooth

as it was." His hope is that Powell, taking a lively interest at 92, gets his due. "Without being sentimental, I want the public to realise that Powell is the best novelist in England this century. So it would be nice if people said: Here's a great writer who's been well served by these films.' I'd settle for

A Dance to the Music of Time begins on Channel 4 next Thursday, A Lener of Resignation opens at the Comedy (0171-369 1731) on Oct 16





Blue remembered love

extual scholarship, a matter with which Tom Stoppard's latest piece is much concerned, is a formidably challenging and often highly speculative affair. It consists of discerning the precise intentions of a writer whose work may have been filtered through scribe after scribe after scribe. In other words, it is rather like confronting a major new Stoppard play. At the National, the task is to find the coherence in the many subjects of The Invention of Love - from learning to aesthetics to homosexuality that have passed through that

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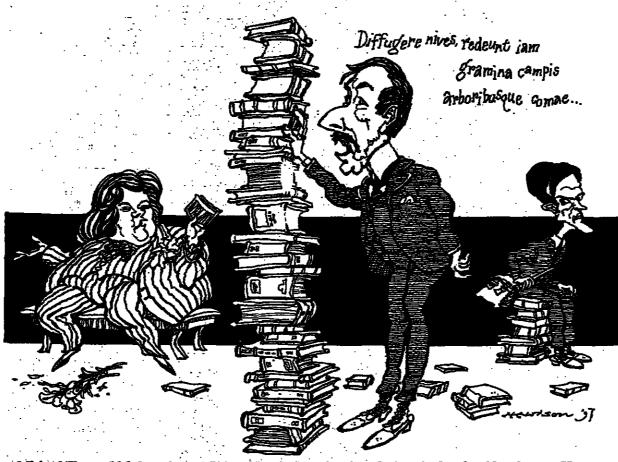
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The Invention Corteside **

complex processing and reprocessing plant, Tom Stoppard's

For those in the first-night audience who found the experience difficult or confusing -and there were some near me who looked rather the way I myself did when a particularly ferocious form-master asked me to con Juvenal at school there is an explanation. This is a memory-play, free-associated from the very brink of Hades. A.E. Housman, author of A Shropshire Lad and eminent Latinist, is trying and not always managing to make sense of a life and an era filled with contradictions.

When we meet him, Housman is a buttoned-up, mildly smiling John Wood, boring the gnarled old cabbie Charon ("I had that Dionysus in the back of my boat") with his thoughts about textual analysis. Then it is 50 years earlier. and he is a gangling, exhila-rated Paul Rhys, rowing down the Cherwell with Mo Jack-



Michael Fitzgerald (left) as Oscar Wilde, with John Wood and Paul Rhys playing the old and young Housman

son, the sporty, philistine fellow undergraduate for whom he secretly nurtured a lifelong love. And from then on reminiscence and fantasy jostle each other, as old Housman debates earnestly on topics classical with young Hous-man, and Ruskin, Pater, Jowett, Wilde and many another Victorian stroll round the arc of grey books that is Anthony Ward's set.

It is a packed, pedagogic, diffuse, witty, melancholy and, as skilfully directed by Richard Eyre, surprisingly engrossing play. Wood and Rhys

have to draw on all their energy and mental passion to sustain some of the academic debate, and it takes time to see where this is leading. Why is Housman so much more interested in tidying up texts than in relishing their content? But gradually one begins to suspect that his burning enthusi-asm for donnish analysis is at least partly an evasion and emotional cover-up.

By the end, when Michael Fitzgerald's splendidly unrepentant Wilde has arrived at the Styx, the play's main thrust is clear enough. In the ancient world love between males was accepted, even admired. Catullus and Horace, Achilles and Patroclus are among those invoked to reinforce the point. So, again and again, is the battle of Chaerona where Philip of Macedon's victims included 150 pairs of Theban lovers. But the very Victorians who regarded classical culture as a prime civilising force regarded all that as "beastliness" to be

ignored or criminalised. Hence Wilde, who goes to Hades with a defiant "better a falling rocket than never a burst of light", and hence poor, repressed Housman. posthumously mourning Jackson. When the always riveting Wood cries: "I would have died for you but I never had the luck," one senses an irony within a title meant to refer to Propertius, Catullus and the other Roman lyrical poets. For some, it might have been better if love had never been

• This review appeared in late editions of The Times pesterday

E GUYS AND DOLLS: The Olive returns to as original shape for the revival of Richard Eyre's revival Exhibitrating National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 NEW RELEASES BENEDICT BOCTY CALL (18): Bosterous and bawdy Airican-American corredy, with Jamie Forer and Tommy Davidson. NIGHTINGALE UC! Whiteleys (5) (0990 888990) Virgin Trocadero (5) (0171-434 0031)

WEEKEND CHOICE KIT AND THE WIDOW: The spruce A daily guide to arts and entertainment

and entertainment compiled by Mark Hargie

done with song.

New End, 27 New End, Hampstead.

NA3 /1171-794 (2022). Tonight and
tomorous, Born. Then Tue-Sat, Born.
mai Sun, 3 30pm. Until October 11. [5]. mai Sum, 3 supm, uma October 11 By
MACKEREL SKY: First play by Dublincased Hilary Farmin rate of two days in
the life of a laded chartisuse (fluth
Higgery) and the mether-in law (Gillian
Rame), tending oil section. Miles
Straked decids
Sush, Shophords Buch Green, London
W12 (OH81-743 3388) Opens longht,
Tenn Thom Mon-Sad, Bpm.
SCULINGARAM COMPANIE 150-16.3 the music of James MacMila Street y
Festival Hall, South Bara, SE1 (017)

SCHRIMANN REVEALED: In a anckend devoted to Schument's orchestral and choral musicities oraneane resolutionnere et Romaniculo prodot John Eloi Gardinet performs there programmes which include the Cello Concerto (Fri), with colost Steven Isserie; Symphony No 3

(Sat). cummating in a performance of Scenes from Goethe's Faust (Sun). Berbicen, Sik Street, EC2 (0171-538 6891). Tonight-Sun, 7:30pm 68811. Tonight-Sin, 7.30pm
SOUTH BANK SELECTION: A
gittering anay of musicians line up to
extention here this weekend. The
Festivat Hall is nose to no less than three
concerts, starting tonight with the
opening of the Russian State Symphony
(orthocom's UK four Torator Symphony
orthocom's UK four Torator Symphony
orthocom's UK four Torator Symphony
Chick, Corea and whorephorest Gary
Burton anive with an evening of
contemporary jazz, while on Sunday,
Russing Sporks, the senes celebrating

☐ THE BIBLE: THE COMPLETE WORD OF GOD (ABRIDGED): Another compression pib by the Raducad Shakespeare Company, said to put the fun back into fundamentalism. Gleigud, Shafesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5055), Mon-Sai, Spin; mais Wec, 3pm, Sai. Spin.

☐ SLUE HEART: Cary! Chuschill plays

conducts at the Barbican

CARDIFF: Painte Causer eth Myshe Lesser's successful production for Welch National Opera of Pozzi's Carmen is making a correspect for the autumn season. Palmora Bardon heads the cast Curn Plan conducts

New Theatre Pair Place Cardiff (01222 878899) : emortow, 7 155m & LEEDS: Dowd Pourtney makes a longswarted return to Opera North to direct a new production of Bohuclay Martinu's rarely performed son, Julietta, with sold

Grand Theatre, 46 New Briggste (0113-245 9351/440971) Tonight, 7 15pm 🚯

ciations are in outdence here lonight as: the renowned conductor Germani the renowned conductor Germadi Rochidestversky takes the product to congest the BBC Prelitemonic, each his son Alexandre as wolin solois. The programme leatings Haydin, Tehalionative and Shockanoch Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mostey Street (0161-907 9000), Tomorraw 7 30mm (97

7 30pm (Q)
WATFORD: David Burt stars as me great Regency actor, pop read of ms. car, in The Meteoric Rise and Dramatic Demise of Edmand Kean. The Sylva Freedman/Michael Jelfrey musical previously seen and praised at the King's Head, Islangton Palace, Clarendon Road, 101923

John Eliot Gardiner

THEATRE GUIDE

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tricks with reality in this double bill for Out Of Joint — in Heart's Desire, where a terruly is waiting for a woman to retur from Australia, and in Blue Kettle as a (0171-928 2252) Torright and torrioriow, 7 15pm, mal torrioriow, 2pm. from Australia, and in Blue Native & a con man time to persuade elderly somen he is their long lost son. Imaginative, other furny, and spreading a sense of uneasia Royal Count, (Duke of York's Theatre), S Matrin's Lune, Wi (0171-838 5122). Mon-Sai, 7.30pm; mat Sai, 3.30pm. (§) N HEARTBREAK HOUSE Strong cast for Dayof Hare sitewal includes Emma Fielding, Pancia Hodge, Carmel McSharry, Penelope Wilson, Richard Emma restang.
McShary, Penniope Witton, Richard
Griffets, Peter McEnery
Almelda, America Street, N1 (0171-359
4404) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mats Set, 3pm.

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS Tom Supple's successful touring production for the Royal Shakespeare Company, a darlier cornedy than usual, in London for THE HERBAL BED Peter Wheten's III THE REPUBAL DELY Feet Wilsten: Lacinating play I.ate Duchone plays Shakespeere's daughter and Michael Ford plays her physician husband Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm, Unit! Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-828 6363) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm Umil October 11.

> AN IDEAL HUSBAND: Return of Peter Half's enjoyable production. brimful of deceptions. Starring Martin

Shaw and Sanon Ward, and Kade O'Mara as the byetic boublemaker Theatre Royal, Haymanet, SWI 0171-930 8800; Mon-Sat, 7 45pm mas Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm Urbi Charles S. October 11

THE MYSTERIOUS MR LOVE hew play by Karoline Leader set in 1915 in a horiel at Weston-super-Mare directed by Bob Tomson Paul Nicholas offection by Book indicate high reference, plays a confidence frotocler and Susan Penhaligon a lovelorn opinister Counselly, Panton Sirver SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sat, Eprin mais Wed 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

DepCoRN Ben Etton's bledening comedy about movie violence. A Terantinoesquo director gets his come-uppance when a couple of senal killers (great playing by Patric Ofhane and Deng Daws) bleme him for their insideods. Laurence Boowell directs. Apollic Stratechus Augustio MI. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Sal, 8pm, mals Wed, 3pm, and Sat. 4pm

☐ PYGMALION - Arrusing, unshowy revival with Roy Marsdon, Michael Elphick and newborner Cain Morns Albery, 51 Marin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730), Mon-Sal, 8pm, mats Thurs, No. 564 (1966). 3pm, Set. 4 30pm

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where ndicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

touching Mike Leigh drama, with katrin Cartildge and Lynda Steedman. Berblican & (0171-838 8891) Claphess PH (0171-868 3323) Curzon Wast End (0171-363 1722) Gate & (0171-727 4043) Odeons: Kenskigton (0181-315 4220) Pisca & (0990 888990) Rikzy (0171-737 2121)

◆ CONTACT (PG) Jodie Fosier Aches make contact with outer space

to make contact with outer space Engyptibe, mostly intelligent scr.f., directed by Robert Zameckis.
ABC Tettenham Court Road (0171-35 6148) Berblean By (0171-388 89 Clepham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Notting Hill Coronet (2) (1177-727 6705) Otloons: Connden Town (0181-345 355) Keestington (1181-315 315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marbie Arch (0181-315 4216)

(0171-935 2772) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0990 888990) Virgin Fulham Road (0171-370 2656) Haymaritet (0171-829 1527) Trocadero (5) (0171-434 0031) Warner (5) (0171-437 4343) ◆ MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING

(12): Julia Roberts does her best to trip up Dermot Mukoney at the altar up Dermot Musicansy at the affair threfligent romanus; comedy, directed by P. J. Hogan ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-

ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-536 6148) Clepham Picture Hostee (0171-498 3323) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Octeons: Carden Town (0181-315 4214) Merble Arch (0181-315 4216) Series Cottage (0181-315 4220) Screen/Bakks Street (0171-935 2772) UCI Whiteleys & (0990 888390) Virgins: Chelses (0171-352 5096) Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) Trocadero (5) (0171-434 0031) Warner (5) (0171-437 4343) THE SWEET HEREAFTER (15).

Lawyer stirs up gneving community Powertul version of Russell Banks : market (0171-839 1527)

cannibalised sets and no chorus For an economy production with on stage, Nicolette Molnar's 1994 staging of Mozart's comedy has done extremely well: this is its third welldeserved revival in as many years. Jacqueline Gunn's witty 1950s coscharacters: they are neither aristos nor operatic posturers, but people we all. know, which is how Molnár treats them. Her lightly feminist Happy End - the sisters overhear the plot and exit with a cheery wave at curtain-fall, leaving their fiances behind with fake brides - wears well, and the thoughtful way she devises the new pairings requires little in the way of suspension of disbelief. She also uses the huge

Mozart sunny side up

The Viennese conductor Alexander Sander is similarly practical. Ideally speaking, the house is about three ly failors his interpretation to it with gentle, unhurried tempos and warm sonorines - Viennese indeed. Some of the playing on Wednesday's first night was perhaps a little too loud, but later performances will be more relaxed.

The production is also a fine showcase for new (and old) company artists. Margaret Richardson, singing her first Fiordligi, is a valuable addition to the roster, as of now her top is stronger than her lower register, and it rings out

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likeable interpretation. Susan Parry, too, was tackling her first Dorabella, no featherbrain but a natural, instinctive girl, far more of a voice of reason than the so-called philosopher Don Alfonso, and thus the linchpin of

from Anne Ridler's translation - with

her own review - with a little help

something going on behind this marvellous artist's eyes, and even in the merry opening numbers you knew this was an introverted, profoundly disillusioned man, and quite unfit to be running a School for Lovers. His male pupils were Ashley Holland as a warm-toned, verbally incisive but dramatically not quite focused Guglielmo. and Charles Workman (Ferrando). whose only fault is that he makes the

RODNEY MILNES

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OPERA & BALLET



Joe Jackson tells Nigel Williamson why he junked pop in favour of a classical album about Heaven and Hell

here seems to come a moment in the careers of ageing pop feel compelled to prove they are "serious artists" by venturing into the grown-up world of classical music. At the moment the tendency is turning into a flood. This month, Paul McCartney follows his Liverpool Oratorio with another large-scale orchestral work, Standing Stone. Aretha Franklin has enrolled at the Juilliard School to study theory and composition. Even as accomplished a songsmith as Billy Joel has apparently abandoned words in favour of orchestral pieces.

Joe Jackson is different. When he hit the charts in the early 1980s with such catchy pop ditties as Is She Really Going Out With Him? and It's Different for Girls, he was only fooling. He didn't boast about the fact too much in those post-punk days, but before he became a pop star he had graduated in composition from the Royal Academy of Music.

Before long he found the format of the three-minute song somewhat limiting and. by the early 1990s, Jackson, now living in New York, had announced his "retirement" from the pop world. Last year he signed to Sony Classical, for which he has just made his most ambitious work to date, a musical representation of the seven deadly sins called Heaven and Hell.

"It's incredibly refreshing being with a classical label." he says. "Mainstream pop providing you sell ten million albums. I got sick of that whining about where the next hit single was coming from. I found it insulting. Artists who want to

do something musically challenging are going more and more with classical labels."

Peter Gelb, president of Sony Classical, agrees. The staple of the classical industry - the reinterpretations of the standard repertoire - has ceased to be artistically or commercially effective. So we are trying to broaden the scope and definition of classi-

> 6 I don't think you can do anything new in pop or rock 9

cal music. Joe naturally crosses the genres without a conscious effort to do so; he's the ideal modern composer."

Although Jackson denies that he is deliberately seeking to break down barriers, Heaven and Hell includes contributions from classical stars such as the sonrano Dawn Upshaw and the violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, as well as two singers who made their name in the pop field: Suzanne Vega and Jane Siberry.

feel very comfortable with that," Jackson says. "It's an ambitious idea tackling the seven deadly sins. I'm not doing it from the point of view of a philosopher or theologian. I started as a composer looking for a theme for a musical piece. There's nothing wrong with concept albums, except that there have been so many horrible ones. Giving a theme to an album is actually quite a good idea.

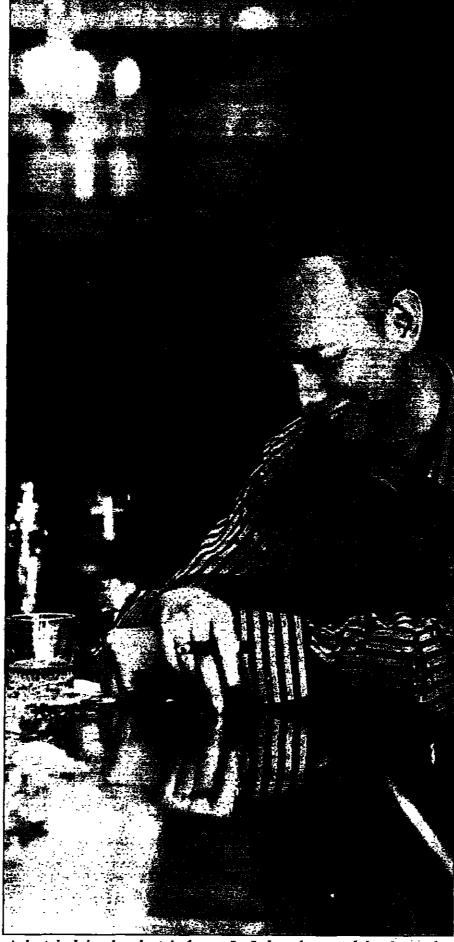
because it creates a struc

The title of the work comes from Jackson's belief that the sins are "routes that can take you either to Heaven or to Hell. The modern take on sin is that it doesn't exist any more. I see these sins as basic human impulses, there's dark and light to them all. You can't banish the Devil because he's inside you. You've got to make friends with him. It's all about integrating these different sides."

His depiction of lust, for example, includes Vega singing the part of a whore and Upshaw that of an angel. Most of the other tracks have a similar duality, and only anger is dealt with in out-andout rock format. "There's a limited emotional range to rock, but anger is the one thing it is good at," Jackson

e is now working on a symphony and is on the second draft of a book about music. But recently pop has made a limited return into his life. "If you had asked me a couple of years ago I'd have said I was only listening to Shostakovich and Sibelius and that pop was all crap. But I think there's a bit of a renaissance now, with Radiohead, Pulp and Oasis, although it is very referential to the past, I don't think you can do anything new in pop or rock music at the moment. The paradox is that the myth says pop always has to be new and rebellious. Instead it's almost a cosy, reassuring continu-

And cosy is something Jackson will never be. • Heaven and Hell is released on Monday by Sony Classical



هكذ (من رالإمل

A chart single is only a chart single, says Joe Jackson, but a good cigar is a smoke

POP CONCERTS

We'll just say fare thee well

e nearly lost him earlier this summer when he was laid low with a potentially fatal heart disease, but then Bob Dylan's detractors have been trying to bury him ever since he was roundly booled for going electric at the Newport Folk Festival in 1965. Dylan has made a career out of confounding his critics, and has just surprised us again by bouncing back with Time Out of Mind, his best-received album in at least a decade.

He wrong-footed them again on Wednesday night, by playing the first date of his British tour at the International Centre in Bournemouth, a town more noted for its retirement homes than rockniroll. As Dylan first toured Britain when Harold Macmillan was Prime Minister, perhaps the two are not that far apart, but he showed here that drawing the pension is the last thing on his mind.

Dylan moved stiffly at first. his sharp. 1960s-style tapered suit giving him a skinny, angular appearance so that he looked either 25 or 65, depending on the light.

He began energetically with five tough rockers from three different decades of his career before switching to an acoustic guitar for Cocaine (not one he sang for the Pope last weekend), Tangled Up in Blue and a slowed-down Mr Tambourine Man, delicately embroidered with a mandolin.

His voice was cracked and shot to pieces, but he was also singing better than in a long time. He has stopped strangling his syllables, his delivery was passionate and the phrasing assured. Dylan has always been an erratic live performer, often baffling his backing musicians as much as his critics, but this was as tight a unit as any he has appeared with since the days of the Band. By the time they hit Highway 61 Revisited, the rhythm section



Bob Dylan: back from the brink and sounding good

was moving more freely and the years were being rolled

After ten songs he was gone, but he was called back for three encores. Dylan has never been content to be a human juke box churning out the hits. preferring to reinvent his songs as he goes along. A guitar-led Like a Rolling Stone owed much to the version recorded by the late Randy California and Spirit. while Don't Think Twice, it's All Right was recast as a swaying mandolin stomp.

The one song from the new album, Love Sick, was recognised instantly by most even though it had been in the shops only three days, which speaks volumes about the dedication of his fan base.

Other than to introduce the band, the voice of a generation had no words of wisdom for his audience, but then he would maintain that he had said it all in the songs. A triumph? Of sorts. That he was there at all was enough.

> NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Rebel with a new course

WHEN Take That finally gave up the ghost, predictions about the boys' future careers seemed simple. There was Gary Barlow the songwriter. and Mark Owen the pretty face: you would bet on them. But you would want long odds on the one who stormed out of the group early, who hung out with Oasis, who went on an almighty, yearlong bender, each drunken

day a tabloid headline. No, you wouldn't fancy a flutter on Robbie Williams. Except that he has cleaned up his act, released an album of bright-eyed pop. and em-barked on a national tour.

lo his Take That days, Williams was always the jok-er, the one with the sly grin and the mischievous smirk He has not changed much; it. is just that, in his solo career, he can play the pop rebel to the full which, on this occasion, includes a punk deconstruction of Take That's

Back for Good as an encore. His music and his performance mark him as a showman in the tradition of David Bowie, Alice Cooper and Meat Loaf, people who invig-orate rock styles with pop extravagance. He even covers Bowie's Kooks, from the album Hunky Dory. But most



telling is the way he plays up to his audience, the way he soaks up the cries of "Robbie, Robbie". the way he wiggles his burn and then stands defiantly still. He relishes the fame, but he also mocks his press coverage, and angrily asserts that he's waited two years to get back onstage. It is this sense of bitterness and frustration that gives his manic performance its edge.

Williams is at his best with the upbeat pop, with the glorious Life Thru a Lens or Clean. His white soul voice blends neatly with the efficient, pristing accompani-ment of his five-piece backing band. The ballads do not ring so true, partly because you are always wondering if he's

joking. Maybe Williams cannot de-met as he's not cide either first as he's not sure whether he is a teen idol or a rock rebel. He may in fact, just be a millionaire having fim, but for as long as the bitterness is there and the boredom does not set in this is a show worth catching.

JOHN STREET

PORTISHEAD www.portishead.co.uk

THE Vancouver-born trum-peter Ingrid Jensen has had a LIVE JAZZ

Virtuoso horn of plenty

near-perfect career thus far. She learnt her trade at Boston's Berklee College of Music before moving to New York and touring with the Vienna Art Orchestra, one of the music's most eclectic contem-porary ensembles. By 25, she had become the youngest teacher at Austria's Bruckner Conservatory. Now a New York resident again, she has as much work as she can handle.

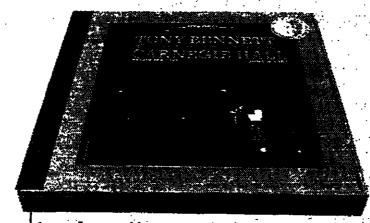
Her gig at Pizza Express, Dean Street, in front of a local rhythm section — pianist John Donaldson, bassist Andy Cleyndert and drummer Steve Brown - as part of the annual Soho Jazz Festival, found her doing what she does best: exploring the modern mainstream courtesy of a welljudged mixture of standards and originals. Beginning with an intrigu-

ingly tricky arrangement of The Days of Wine and Roses and If I Were a Bell, she demonstrated why she num-bers two of today's most respected trumpeters, Clark Terry and Art Farmer, among her admirers. Vigorous and eloquent, hers is a sure-footed, attractively crackling sound when up-tempo, shading into crooning sonority on ballads. Her younger sister, Chris-tine, composed the first set's original, the title-track of Jensen's debut album, Vernal Fields. A cool, mid-tempo waltz, it showcased a mellow. flowing flugelhorn sound clearly indebted to Art Farm-

employed both for the subsequent ballad feature and for the opening choruses of Summer Night, an intelligent Renee Rosnes arrangement of the Harry Warren/Al Dubin classic, but Jensen sensibly closed with her more manageable horn, the trumpet.

Her second set again saw her alternating between flu-gelhorn (on which she occa-sionally indulged in Kenny Wheeler-like high-note flur-ries) and trumpet on material by another of her great heroes. the late Woody Shaw. Possessed as she is of a pleasantly relaxed stage demeanour in addition to her musical talents. Jensen looks to be well set for a lengthy and satisfying

CHRIS PARKER



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Tony Bennett sets the legendary Carnegie Hall on fire with this brilliant performance from 1962. Backed by longtime band leader Raiph Sharon and his orchestra, this remastered version features 18 previously unreleased tracks,

ORCHESTRE REVOLUTIONNAIRE ET ROMANTIQUE CONDUCTED BY FRI 3 OCT, 7,30pm SAT 4 OCT 7:30pm Robert Levin pitro ntroduction and Allegro for pieno. Op 134 Konzertstück in F for four homs & orchestra, Op 88 Symphony No 3 Rhenish SUN 5 OCT, 4.00pm Programme includes Plano Trio No 3 Plano Culntet in E flat SUN 5-OCT, 7.30pm

Barbican Centre

the world

So you missed out on the Pixies when they were alive? Never mind - now you can catch them in death

ow the world changes in five years. There L was this pub in Wolverhampton called the Rag-lan. It was a breezeblock situated in the kind of deserted car park where villains meet up to swap tips. You could only reach it by jumping over the barriers of a dual carriageway and dodging the No 543 bus to Dudley. As you would already be drunk on cider and blackcurrant, motorists would frequently witness a Goth Charlie Chaplin practising pratfalls while trying to keep that last, smuggled pint

upright. In 1992, though, the Ragian was the only place in Wolverhampton where you could hear Indie Music. No. scratch that — in 1992, the Raglan was the only place you

could hear guitars. Do you want to see something really scary? Then consider this Top Ten from 1992: it contains Baker Street by Undercover, Achv Breakv Heart by Billy Ray Cyrus and Rock Your Baby by KWS, for which all words but "Ugh" fail me. Dot-

ted in between, like toothmarked slugs in an already horrid salad, are singles by Annie Lennox, Brian May and

And all of these atrocities were woven from the Only Permitted Instruments, circa 1985 to 1994: synthesizers. And not the crunching, crushing, diesel-fumed synths of the Prodigy, the Chemical Brothers and DJ Shadow, but the parping, quacking, sexiess synths that sound like wetlook perms and ironed leans.

So we ran to the Raglan Saturday night, and I up on guitar filth manna. Guitars that jangled, guitars that exploded in screams of white noise, guitars that pierced the spine, guitars that filled your nose and mouth with a taste not unlike that of blood; guitars that left you pleasantly deaf. And of all these guitars, the Pixies' filthed you up the quickest. Black Francis, screaming like a car in a deep-fat fryer; the unholy grinning shark with lipstick that was Kim Deal, and two other blokes. They

The Pixies sounded like the hail! dirtiest, wildest, most tran-

Marie Tiere

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. . . -جندي

thing in the world. They were demons trying to be godlike, Dick Dale surfing a buffalo in Mexico's crack-filled oceans, the Beach Boys playing in

Kurt Cobain half-inched everything he knew from the Pixies and admitted it: "I was trying to write the ultimate pop song," he explained of Smells Like Teen Spirit. "I was basically trying to rip off the Pixies." The Pixies, you see, invented rock as we know it now, as they blissfully stumbled across a New Dynamic start off really loud, go very, very quiet and then EX-PLODE in a wall of sound so vast that the beer jumps out of your bottle. Radiohead, Manic Street Preachers, Oasis, the Chemical Brothers and the

> en to greatness on the back of this trick, But, alas, the Pixies were ahead of their -time, heroic guitar colossi in an age of synth midgets, and you get nothing for being ahead of your time. bar the undying gratitude of kids who couldn't dance

Prodigy have all ris-

until, say, U-Mass made them. They broke up in 1991, and the world was cerily silent until Nirvana picked up the baton with the unfunky Pixies of Nevermind

But now there's Death to the Poies, a rampantly rocking Best Of that makes Oasis look like Nick Drake. It goes beyond being the best album of 1997. Putting a date on it cheapens the titan; it would be like calmly writing the date of the apocalypse in your diary. The world should be almost panicked by its

Those not in the know should try to imagine the thrill of screaming typics like "Slic-ing up eyeballs, ugh, ugh, ugh", or reciting the mantra: "If man is five Then the devilis six/And if the devil is six/Then Gawd is seven!", and what it would be like to be strapped to the nosecone of the space shuttle on take-off. While smoking a fag

The Pixies were guitar's ultimate glory. Mars's steaming mud monkeys come to save us all. And Death to the Pivies is their resurrection. All

 Death to the Pixies is released by scendentally drunk party- 4AD on Monday

NEW ALBUMS: Janet Jackson shows her more sincere side to David Sinclair on The Velvet Rope

Six strings | NEW ALBUMS: Janet Jackson shows ner more shows that saved | Ballad on the dancefloor

YOU have to admire Janet Jackson, if only for her ability to maintain her equilibrium while all around are losing theirs. Although perfectly capable of upstaging her brother Michael, as she did in the video of Scream, their duet in which she appeared as simply the coolest woman on (and off) the planet, she can still seem quite same and sincere when

the moment calls for it albeit

in that showbizzy, Diana Ross

The first of her new album.
The Velvet Rope, is a meta-phor for the emotional cordon which we all throw around our hearts to keep the rest of the world at bay, a theme which she explores in the somewhat ineffectual track of the same name. But a more appropriate image might be to think of it as a tightrope along which Jackson struts, deftly balancing tense, state-of-the art dance tracks such as You on the one side, and saccharine-sweet ballads including Special ("I have a need to feel

real special") on the other. Her voice is better suited to the dance stuff, where the production by Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis sounds effortlessly modern and she performs with the taut sensuality of an aerobics Hass mistress. Got Til #2 Gine, with its hip hop beat and bewitching sample of Joni Minchell's Big Yellow Taxi, and Together Again, which sets a Motown-flavoured tune to a romping house groove, are among the best numbers on the album.

Elsewhere, she has a tendency to mistake sexual for soulful, treating us to lots of salacious moaning and groaning on Rope Burn and My Need, but leaving an emotional vacuum at the heart of the George Michael-esque ballad Anything and a gently shuffling version of Rod Stewart's Tonight's the Night.

MIKE SCOTT Still Burning (Chrysalis 7243 8 57389 £13.95)

HAVING belatedly embarked Em All In, released in 1995— Mike Stort has now reemerged as a born again rock'n'roller on the magnificent follow-up, Still Burning. As always there is a lovely

lilt of indeterminate Celtic origin in his voice, and a poetic thrust to his words. But now there is also a new backing band, built around the formidable rhythm section of Jim Keltner (drums) and Pino Paladino (bass), who inject a tremendous swagger into songs such as Rare, Precious Gone and the recent single, Love Anyway. "Let's walk through the jungle/Put rock n roll. your arm in my arm/And should this ground start to crumble/We'll come to no

to which the Memphis Horns Many of the songs are further beefed up by the harmony vocals of lan-McNabb, whose celebrated 1994 album, Head Like a Rock, this record in some ways

harm. Scott sings in the

stumning opener. Questions,

resembles. Both albums share four perfectly good extra new a spiritual bond with Neil Young, McNabb's having featured Young's backing group. Crazy Horse, and Scott's having been co-produced by Niko Bolas, well-known for his association with Young. And, like Young's best work, Still Burning is an album that brings fresh wit and tremendous energy to music steeped in the traditional verities of

Sci-Fi Lullabies (Nude 9CD; two discs £16.49)

OASIS are often praised for out good B-sides on their singles, and rightly so. But like so much else about the 1990s it was Suede who initiated the practice of including anything between one and

songs on every single they have released. After 12 singles. this amounts to a substantial body of work not incorporated on any album until now. Sci-Fi Lullabies wraps this wealth of less familiar materi-

al - 27 tracks in all - in one inclusive package. While there is a preponderance of slow, dolorous and generally less instantly catchy songs than tend to grace the band's albums and A-sides, very little of it could be dismissed as filler. And several numbers, includ-ing Killing of a Flashboy, My Insatiable One and To the

> CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

Birds, have been an essential part of the band's repertoire at different times. How irritating, though, that

this wonderful package, complete with lyrics and all release details, could not have found room for Stay Together, the one A-side not included on any of Suede's albums, and surely one of their best lullabies ever.

PATTI SMJTH (Arista/BMG 07822 18986

PATTI SMITH'S return to the fray last year with Gone Again, after a 15-year retirement, was naturally welcomed as something of an event. But if she is going to make a habit of releasing new albums, then the hard work of convincing people that she means business begins now.

Thankfully, Peace and Noise is a dark and at times furiously powerful collection of songs that leaves no doubt about her intentions. As on Gone Again, the theme of death looms large - titles include Dead City, Death Singing, Memento Mori and Last Call. But here the stories are vehicles for social commentary — about Aids, the Heaven's Gate suicides, the Vietnam War - rather than

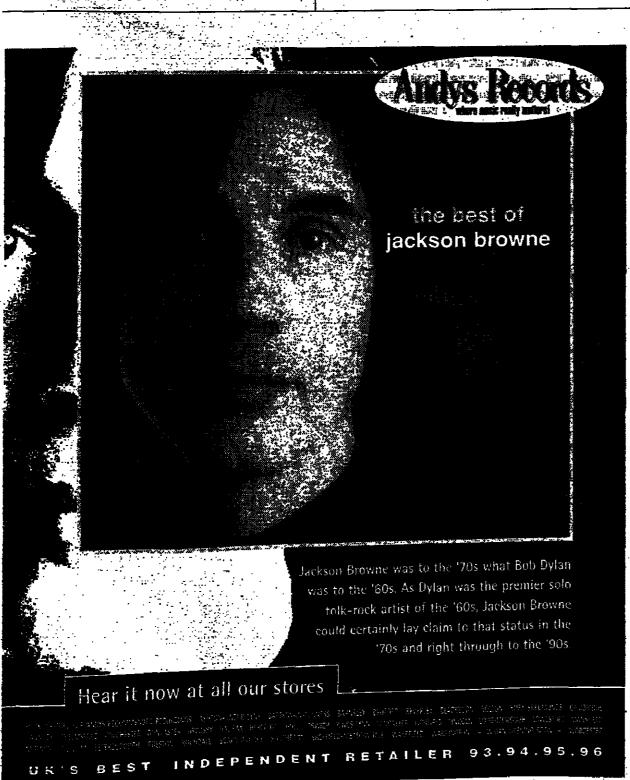
If there is a criticism, it is that the trad-rock arrangements and long historical perspective of numbers such 1959 - "We built that thing/And it grew wings/In 1959 - give the album a backward-looking feel. making it more of an archaeological dig than a slice of 1990s

personal reveries.

The title of Janet Jackson's new album is a metaphor for the emotional cordon we throw around our hearts to keep the rest of the world at bay, OK?

TOP TEN ALBUMS

ı	·		
·	1 (-)	Urban Hymns	Verve (Hut)
Į	2 711	Be Here Now	Oasis (Creation)
1	1 (-) 2 (1) 3 (-)	Portisheed	Portishead (Go! Beat)
ı	4 (2) 5 (-)	Marchin' Already	Ocean Colour Scene (MCA)
ı	<u> </u>	The Big Picture	Elton John (Rocket)
ı	6 (4)	Maverick a Strike	Finley Quaye (Epic) Texas (Mercury) Biork (One Little Indian)
ı	7 5	White on Blonde.	Texas (Mercury)
Į	B 73	Homogenic	Björk (One Little Indian)
ì	9 (6)	OK Computer	Radiohead (Parlophone)
	9 (6) 10 (3)	Butterfly	
	Copyright		● Figure in brackets denotes last week's position



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The excluded are always with us

John Lloyd considers the poor

and the politically homeless

lifty men and women, suffering from social exletter to Tony Blair this week, hoping that the lamp of the media lit for the Prime Minister would spare a beam for their appeal. Their cry was heard but faintly. The Government ignored them and steam-rollered on to the final victory iigs today.

The excluded are the kind of men and women the Government regards as a menace to society. They are professors of sociology and social policy, lodged in those crevices in the higher education system which were opened up by the expansion of academic research into social change from the 1960s. Generally leftish, dedicated to such notions as greater equality, they are to new Labour the academic equivalent of squeegee merchants, forever sidling up to one's car when one is in a hurry, offering to make one's vision clearer with a couple of pieces of research showing that life is more complicated than one's last speech.

The letter they wrote was published on Wednesday in the Financial Times, as befits missives from the excluded. It was a classic piece of social

Blair

heard

their

cry but

democracy of the kind Roy Hattersley has made the centrepiece of his Savonarola to new Labour, building a bonfire to burn away its vanities. The vanity he and the professors see is

that which new Labour proclaims as its way of ending exclusion - through work, labour market flexibility and education, education, education. Work is good, say the professors, but not nough; although redistribution is not the only route to a more equal society. "it would help". Ministers, however. seem to have erased it from the map altogether".

The letter was written too late to benefit from the Prime Minister's thoughts on the matter in his conference speech, but they would not have moderated its tone. He did not want, he said, hungry children, impoverished pensioners and anomic youth, and would not rest until the country in which they exist was gone. He then went on to condemn the Tories for raising taxes. Where he was more precise, and as passionate. was in making clear that the route out of exclusion was through work. "Get a job" is the message - insistent, hacked with sanctions, in that virtue, and sociability, can again be found.

(Tony Blair's speeches, on such an occasion, have about them that modern contribution to the art of rhetoric: they moisten the tear ducts and cause the teeth to grind at the

The day after the speech, I went with some people in the voluntary sector to meet a few of the excluded. A group called Streetlife, composed of homeless men, had set up shop in an old warehouse beside King's Cross station in London, got together a few grants and functioned as a kind of advice and discussion agency. In the

them - his name was Joe said that the ideal for homeless people was, in the main, not to rejoin the "straight" live in self-sustaining communities: a tradition which he noted went back to the Middle

confirmed something which is treated as obvious by those who work in the world of the excluded or dispossessed or poor. That is, that many do indeed not wish to be part of the "straight" world, finding more pleasure, more fulfilment and more comfort in an exclusion which seems repellent to the majority.

So what? a moderniser might say. Let them stay out. We design policies for that majority, especially the young among it, who do not want to fall into or remain in that marginalised world. Yet that response, fervent though it is in the belief that work includes and that inclusion is a necessary part of the Government's objection of the 50 professors. Where no redistribution is attempted by the conventional fiscal means of taking from the

rich and giving to the poor, then the widening gulf between rich and poor which was such a feature of the Conservative era reworsens, according to the workings of the market.

The lower slopes faintly of the service economy which we, with all other advanced economies. have become are often a poor school of citizenship - poorer than the industrial conglomerations of the pre-1970s era where skill, union organisation and relative gave shape to working-class society and thus to society as a whole. The modern equivalent is fragmented and often a deeply insecure place - fine for the young and self-confident who can flit or be knocked hither and thither; dispiriting and enervating for

men and women beyond their mid-thirties, with families they either have or want, who experience the market more as unattainable or demanding than as filled with choice and opportunity. It is the world we have; no

alternative presently stands. But there are two "in-system" critiques. One is that of the 50 professors which demands that Labour returns to a redistributionist agenda. It demands that it capitalises on what has been invoked as a "giving age" — in yet another lachrymose, teeth-grinding phrase redolent of the Departed One - by using the fiscal system to take and to give, just

like the good old days.

And the other is Joe's: the self-sustaining - or, for that matter, the scrounging - communities of the street people who want to stay on the street and to affirm their diversity by staying clear of the world of work, or at least of that work organised for them by the State. Less of a giving, but at least a living, age.

John Lloyd is associate editor



هكذامن الإمل

Making mugs of us all

ome 160 years ago a Whig. Viscount Melbourne, warned radical colleagues that they should not write the Tories

I do not quite share in your confidence in the strength of the liberal party in England, and in the impossibility of the Conservatives . . . how much the power of the liberals has always depended upon excitement and what is called agitation — this force is like that of a fever or epilepsy, almost irresist-ible at the moment, but transient and

"Irresistible at the moment." That is how the Labour Party and its leader have seemed to me all week at Brighton. There is the feeling almost of a gathering wind, at first moving only the corners of the net curtains of and pamphlets, rustling trees; finally roaring down the seafront, blowing away the placards of protesters, throwing sand in the eyes of dissidents, shaking the very buildings as people take shelter and gape.

It is not easy to be a Conservative in these autumn days of 1997. It is not easy to see sceptical minds - minds of writers, minds of thinkers, minds better than my own — going down like ninepins before the force of a bogus political idea, and still hold fast to the knowledge that this is all just a fever, a kind of dream, and that it will pass. When a delirium takes hold, we struggle to believe it is not

And yet I am gripped by a different conviction. It is that the palace of dreams is without foundation, the fabric baseless. Reach out and try to touch, to grasp at these coloured shapes and dancing lights - these "beacons" - and they dance away. Your hand returns clammy and cold, empty, save for sand. There is a howling void at the centre of all this: a huge, weird hollowness.

forever.

There is also a mendacity. To keep my grip on what is real. I place before me on the desk where I type a set of five new coffee mugs, sold here at Brighton in aid of party funds. Each mug is a different colour: strawberry, burnt lime, pale blue, magenta, yellow. These were the five colours of the biliboards the Labour Party used in its general election campaign. The admen's strategy was cute: to use changing colours, changing messages, to gain attention for what was really the repetition of just a handful of simple, key sentences, and ram these home. They included: "Smaller A nation in the grip of mass hysteria

cannot resist Mr Blair. But it will pass

class sizes". "More jobs for young people", "Tough on crime", "No rise in income tax rates" and "Waiting lists will be shorter".

Each of my five mugs in the five colours bears one of the messages. Or so it appears to anyone who never actually memorised them last April. If you did, you may find the slogan on the pale blue mug unfamiliar. It reads: "Treat more NHS patients." That was not the billboard message. which read "Waiting lists will be shorter". The past has been quietly

I make no point about the inability of politicians to fulfil pledges, or about lems in the health

service. I remark only on the small but signal dishonesty of changing the pledge on the mug. It is the work of a

mind which has sought to alter the record: to airbrush out a tiny bit of history. To me there is always something a bit frightening about those who seek to persuade you that you have not seen something you

have seen. I stare up at that mug, and down at my text of Tony Blair's speech on Tuesday: "You kept faith with us. And we will keep faith with you"; "A Government of high ideals and hard choices"; "Creative. Compassionate. Confident of our place in the world

. A beacon to the world"; "On May 1997, fear lost. Hope won. The Giving Age began" ... and I look back up at that blue mug and smile a small, secret smile, muse on the possibility that Mr Blair may next anoint himself Prime Minister of Hearts, and rediscover the confidence to be sure - whatever the fawning headlines and overheated media prose may suggest - that the

For love like this is a kind of hysteria. I use the term not in its popular sense but as clinical psychologists use it. I do not mean that people start running around and waving their arms (although on the arrival of Tony Blair in Cinema One of the Brighton Odeon on Tuesday, one female fan did actually scream).

No, "hysterical" behaviour is behaviour in which perception and judgment are subverted by an emotion of whose grip the patient is often

unaware at the time. The pathology of mass or group hysteria is well documented, although the means by which it is transmitted are hardly understood. It can spread like fire through a crowd. packed together. Spread (by the written or broadcast word) through a group who are physically dispersed, like what we are pleased to call the British intellectual establishment, the fuse is slow, the effect milder.

extreme, the raw power of mass hysteria can be staggering. assembly halls full of schoolgirls start

fainting battalions of Zulu warriors can rush, whooping and bright-eyed with excitement, into gunfire; entire congregations of the devout can fall to the ground in a shaking fit of religious enthusiasm. I sensed a kind of group hysteria in the House of Commons during the Falklands War when, for many months, things that were true - or at least arguable - simply could not be

spoken. I sensed it, more fitfully, among Tory colleagues in the noon of Margaret Thatcher's ascendancy. Things were believed which were not believable. Critical faculties were suspended and the impossible be-came, for a while, credible. Germans who were alive during the Third Reich will understand me; those who remember the McCarthy era or Eva Perón will understand too. But mass hysteria is not an intrinsically rightwing (or left-wing) phenomenon, it is not an ideological phenomenon at all, but emotional. We may be moved to good or ill — to burn witches, burn books, save cities or idolise princesses - but what moves us is a kind

of madness. And it is not remember-able. This it is important to know about mass hysteria: that although the actions provoked can be recorded - although the flowers at Buckingham although the things we are led to believe may be written down and filed away - the feelings which inspired them can never be recalled. That is why the bare record of what people will do can be so baffling. Nobody can remember the hysteria

"We've rejoined the same planet as the rest of the world." Robin Cook told the conference yesterday. No, Foreign Secretary, we've temporarily departed it. Until we return, I shall keep the memory from the Brighton Odeon of nearly one thousand people applauding a screen.

I shall record the fact that two

million people in Britain who did not vote for Tony Blair now believe that they did; that a British press which had laughed John Major to scorn. offered not a giggle when on Tuesday the Prime Minister told an applauding audience of his concern that some teenagers spit. I shall photocopy the headlines about the "giving age" and the editorials about a change in "new Britain's soul, and pencil a marginal note that some months previously. Tony Blair had won a million and a half fewer votes than John Major did in 1992. I shall make a little list of promises Mr Blair made on Tuesday: to "end boom and bust", "borrow only for investment" and "strengthen

shall bury in a sealed timecapsule his printed vows to create "a Britain where no child goes hungry, the young are employed, and the old are cherished and valued to the end of their days", to make Britain "the new power of the information age", "the best-educated and schooled country in the world". "a model 21st-century nation, a beacon to the world", to end the common agricultural policy and leadthe world into a crusade against global warming, and to usher in the giving age". And I shall record my bemusement, not that one more politician with a cold talent for making people feel warm should say these things, but that for a short

Philip Howard



Alas poor Banksie, a fellow of infinite jest

f course Tony Banks's joke about the Tories having elected a foetus as their leader and now wishing to abort it is in shocking bad taste. So, to a lesser or greater degree depending upon your sensitivities, were his other cracks about abortion. Peter Mandelson featuring as the Prince of Darkness, and Michael Portillo as television presenter compared to Pol Pot joining the Teletubbies. When the Prime Minister asked him if he would like the post of Minister for Sport in the Government, Mr Banks claims (unpersuasively) that he replied: "Is the Pope a Catholic?" And he ad-libbed aside to his guffawing audience: "(I thought that would stand me in very good stead with Cherie and the friends of

the Brompton Oratory)." That was good going, at one meeting to have outraged taboos about death, Roman Catholics, tragedy, religion, sex, women and the Beloved Leader of his party. So Mr Banks has been reprimanded and exiled to outer darkness, or at any rate to Bratislava, to watch his team, the Blues, hitting the crossbar as often as his jokes do.

But of course Mr Banks should not be sacked for his bad jokes. They seem funny to some because down in the slag they contain outrageous diamonds of truth. And Mr Banks fills the ancient and useful role of court (Establishment) jester Professional fools, licensed to abuse and poke fun at the high and mighty, have flourished from the Egyptian pharaohs until the 19th century. They have made their living from disrespectful and distasteful abuse of their masters in societies as diverse as those of the Aztecs and the courts of medieval Europe. At the Saturnalia they took over the cruel potentocracy of Rome for a that, the plebs and slaves were penned back in their places, and out came the whips and axes for

7 ill Sommers, the real jester at the Tudor court, was the live model for Yorick, Feste, Touchstone and the other motley fools in Shakespeare, who sang sweet songs and told truths as well as playing the zany. The Fool in King Lear is wiser than the kings and courtiers, and gets whipped for his jokes. The official post of court jester has been abolished. But Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, unwit-tingly and unwittily, performs it for the Tory party. And Tony Banks does the business much better for new Labour. For rude jokes are a safety valve for the rude masses in all societies. And in the humourless tyrannies of the Nazis and the Communists. they were punished by worse outrage than headlines demanding the sacking of the jokers. New Labour, new Britain.

new rhetoric, but no old jokes. The high-tech sermons at the Labour Party conference have been fulsome, in its proper meaning, if you like that sort of thing, polished to use ud gloss by soundbite merchants and headline managers, and as full of missal uplift as the pitch by a born again television evangelist. And those born-agains are twice as tiresome second time around. You expect Eimer Gantry to appeal for big brown notes in a bucket and true believers to writhe on the floor. The young may just have heard of a Beatle. but a beacon? That is as antique a metaphor as a candle blowing in the wind, and surrounded by windbreaks and butlers with

boxes of matches. The new oratory goes in for alineration of the genteel cwords: compassionate, caring, community, choice. Compassionate with a hard edge sounds like the sort of chocolate that gets squeezed in the box and rejected. But trendy "new" and patriotic "Britain" score even better than the compassionates in the soft new soap-opera speech. Those flashing eyes and quivering lower lip may charm the feather-headed. But enthusiasm and charm in speech is usually proportionate to vacuity in ideas. What the new rhetoric and any hot gospel are desperately short of are humour, irony. wit and some had-boy bad taste. Why no heckling? Because evangelists want to be loved by everyone. Moral uplift runs on a tide of treacle with only wet, selfdeprecating jokes.

Machiavelli advised ambitious politicians to avoid humour at all costs, because it causes, only trouble. So, it does. But Tony Banks is more useful than an ambitious courtier. He adds intelligence and bad taste to the people's love-in.

period, we were disposed to believe And I shall look again at my five nugs, shut my eyes, breathe deeply, book a holiday somewhere with a comparatively vigorous intellectual life, such as South Dakota ... and wait. Almost irresistible at the moment," said Melbourne, "but tran-Palace can be pressed and preserved, sient and succeeded by weakness." Naked cheek at the café

Final chord

A DELICATE dispute over the resting place for Sir Georg Solni, the Hungarian-born conductor who died last month aged 84, has arisen between his widow and Hungary. Its diplomats have expressed "considerable interest" in "who will have the honour of finally interring

Sir Georg". They want to lay him to rest in Budapest; Lady Solti wants to bury her husband, who became a British citizen in 1971 and was knighted shortly afterwards, in his adopted homeland.

The conductor was cremated (unusually for a Jew) and the ashes are still with his widow at their North London home. And Lady Solti, his second wife, who met Sir Georg when she interviewed him more than 30 years ago, is determined not to let them go.

But the Hungarians are not to be deflected. "He is one of our all-time greats. He ranks with Bartok," says the new Hungarian Ambassador. Gabor Szentivanyi, stressing the need to "bring him home". One of his staff has a blunter approach:

'He belongs to us." Mr Szentivanyi is now engaged in "careful" discussion with Lady Solti, although a decision is being held off until after the three Solti memorial services planned for Chicago, Munich and London.

We need time to work these

things out," says an aide to Lady S.

Lion's roar

have to think about it."

STAND by for a scorching literary wrangle between Martin Amis and John Updike. Bruised by a batch of blunt notices for Night Train, his new novella. Amis is to harangue the offending reviewers - and Mr Updike is first on his hitlist.

" We should proceed as he would

have wanted - marking his mem-

ory within the spirit of his wishes. We are moving with great care."

SUCH an upstanding chap, the

Prime Minister. Late the other

night I found him and his wife

Cherie studying a bracing set of questions displayed on a computer

screen. What would be your

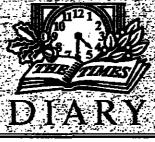
answer to number three?" I asked.

This inquired of the PM whether

he "would like to be dipped in

honey and thrown to the lesbians".

"Probably not," he replied before a



Most of the damning verdicts "tosh" being a typical judgment might be dismissed as mere sniping. Not so the scathing Updike review, coming as it does from Amis's beloved literary America. "I need to know why they felt

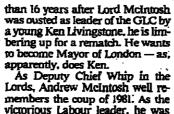
critical," he explains. "It is important for me to talk through the points they made and argue it out Updike's review could certainly

prompt some arguing. Admitting to "hating it" in the first line, Updike went on to give reasons, which included "the unmentionable way the plot proceeds ... the solution of the mystery and the point of the book." Take cover.

Capital scrap THIS could be revenge served as a

and the gradual section of the contract of the

dish so cold it will be frozen. More



Lords, Andrew McIntosh well remembers the coup of 1981. As the victorious Labour leader, he was supplanted by the leftist Livingstone. He believes he could unite the capital more than Red Ken or Blue Jeffrey (Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare). Then there is the matter of revenge. Says a friend: "He has had to wait a long time."



putting his money where

ism, he insists. Certainly not. WHO says all Labour delegates

WHEN Naomi Campbell made an impromptu late-night visit to the construction site shortly to become her London Fashion Café, she was nonplussed to find her builders dancing naked on the stage. "She hit the roof," says a culprit. "She screamed 'what on earth is going on?" or words to that effect.

Odd. really, when Miss Campbell spends many working hours in decidedly economical dress. Cafe life has not been easy for

Naomi. With partners Elle Macpherson and Claudia Schiffer, she s said to be embroiled in a rent dispute with the landlord of the Fashion Cafe, New York. The London launch has not gone swimmingly, either. It was to open during London Fashion Week but for some reason building work has run over schedule . . ,

A NOVEL plan to shore up the Empire from Bernie Grant: why not follow the French and allow our remaining Caribbean territories to elect their own Westminster MPs? You cannot call it colonial-

embrace the new order? The much-

trumpeted blue mugs emblazoned with the comforting slogan "Tough on crime" have been withdrawn from sale at a conference shop owing to lack of demand.



JASPER GERARD



BLIND JUSTICE

Straw's action on race undermines his other efforts

New Labour is nowhere more conservative than in Home Affairs. Jack Straw's social conservatism is, however, not in the Tory tradition but authentically of his own party. The predecessor to whom he is closest is not Michael Howard, nor Douglas Hurd, but James Callaghan. It was Lord Callaghan of Cardiff who attempted to check the libertarianism of the Sixties when he promised to "call a halt to the rising tide of permissiveness" and his traditional working-class morality finds an echo in Mr Straw's deployment of new legislation to maintain public order. Mr Straw's stance is also in tune with a reaction in Labour ranks against the corrupted liberalism of the Left in the Eighties. The change was nowhere more apparent than in the loud applause Mr Straw earned yesterday for his championing of the police, unlikely heroes of any Eighties Labour conference.

The Labour Party has not, however, altogether abandoned the gesture politics of that decade. There is one government proposal flourished by Mr Straw yesterday. which is, regrettably, more politically correct than politically astute and although conceived from the noblest of motives it is likely to prove counter-productive in practice. The Home Secretary's plan to introduce a new category of offence for racially motivated violence is a misuse of the criminal justice system. The Government's determination to tackle prejudice is admirable but the Home Secretary should have rejected the lobbying of the Commission for Racial Equality whose determination to effect legislative change will only work against the interests of those whom it wishes to defend.

Introducing an explicitly racial elementinto criminal cases in the manner Mr Straw proposes could turn trials into evidential minefields and ideological battlegrounds. The experience of America, most recently in the O. J. Simpson case, shows how dangerous and distorting it can be when questions of racial motivation dominate a

Proving a racial motivation is not only an additional hurdle for the prosecution in any case-but one which is likely to prove extremely difficult to clear. How can it be proved satisfactorily that a white man who saults a black does so because of his colour rather than, say, resentment at the other's wealth or random indulgence in violence? Even if an individual subscribes to racist views by, for example, expressing open prejudice in conversation, how can it be proved that an assault is racially motivated as distinct from directionless thuggishness? As for the victim, will his hurt be any the greater, his wounds slower to heal, his loss less easy to bear, because his assailant's skin is a different colour?

Advocates of new legislation argue that racially motivated violence is an offence against not just the victim but his community. It is certainly true that there are Fascist groups which seek to set white against black by targeted violence, but the legislation currently proposed could play into the hands of those determined to poison race relations. In cases where black criminals assault white victims and no racial motivation is attributed, those determined to inflame ethnic tensions will allege that the Government's legislation discriminates against the majority population. Such malicious accusations may not carry much weight in Whitehall or the Strand but they will, unfortunately and inevitably, provide racists with an opportunity to play on unjustified, but persistent, prejudices in Bethnal Green and Bradford.

The figure of Justice is blindfold for a reason. Using the criminal justice system to make symbolic genuflection to political causes, however noble, only undermines the effective operation of the rule of law and fetters proper judicial discretion. Punishment should not depend on creating a statutory hierarchy of wickedness which elevates racial prejudice over any of the other ugly impulses towards criminality with which society must deal.

REVOLT IN ROME

Italy's Communists will determine Prodi's fate

A mere 18 months after the forces of the Left the Communists. Their core constituency is assumed power in Italy for the first time in located disproportionately among the el50 years, fratricide threatens their continued derly and trade unionists. They have survival. From the moment of its election, is the centre-left coalition led by Romano Prodi contained the seeds of its destruction. The consistent objective of Signor Prodi's administration has been early Italian entry into European monetary union. But the Government's parliamentary majority was dependent on the votes of the Rifondazione Comunista - perhaps the most unashamedly Marxist entity on either side of the old Iron Curtain. That party was always an extremely improbable partner in the quest for fiscal rectitude.

 j_{i}, i_{i}

...

Until this week, Italian politics has survived the apparent incompatibility between Signor Prodi's ambitions and Communist hopes. The Government did manage. to pass a budger last year that transformed ltaly's prospects of matching the Maastricht convergence criteria. It achieved this only through a very substantial increase in taxation (of which the Communists approved) rather than an overdue assault on state spending. That formula has proved impossible to repeat. Signor Prodi has proposed expenditure cuts of 25 trillion lire (£9 billion) in the current budget. This includes a 5 trillion lire reduction in welfare entitlements, especially pensions. It is on such provisions

that his political prospectus now depends These measures are essential for Italy's long-term financial credibility. If anything, the reforms outlined by Signor Prodi are insufficiently radical. Expenditure on pensions at present constitutes an astonishing 17.2 per cent of GNP. Whether Italy is in or out of EMU such a commitment cannot be sustained. But even the rather incremental change suggested has proved too much for declared their opposition to Signor Prodi's "budget for Europe" and in so doing have triggered a political crisis. This must be

resolved in little more than seven days. There are three possible outcomes to this impasse - none of which is attractive. The Communists could carry through their threat and - despite the undoubted risks involved - throw out the administration. An exceptionally unpredictable election campaign would then follow. Alternatively, the Government could seek support from the several parties of the Centre-Right. Such an arrangement permitted Italian troops to be deployed in Albania earlier this year despite Communist objections. On this occasion. though, the Opposition would certainly demand a much higher price for its support. Those conditions might include the resignation and replacement of Signor Prodi.

The final and most likely option is a belated compromise. It is hard to envisage a fresh budget formula that would both command full Communist support and be deemed sufficiently rigorous by the financial markets. The Government might endure but the chances of German public opinion and hence Helmut Kohl supporting initial Italian membership of EMU would recede. At some stage, Signor Prodi will either have to propose additional spending reductions or abandon outright his stated European policy. If the collapse of his premiership or the administration does not come next week it would follow at that point. In Italy, the unity of the Left and the advance of monetary union appear irreconcilable. This conundrum deserves consideration in London as well as Rome.

NOT FOR GIRLS

Boxing is barbaric enough already

pugilism as Dr Johnson once took of female preaching, "like a dog walking on his hinder legs, not done well; but you are surprised to find it done at all". Yet in gyms and sports clubs all over Britain women have been training as pugilists for years, keeping in peak physical form with punchbags and pads, skipping ropes and speedballs. The hoxer's training offers an unsurpassed allround workout. As such it is not to be discouraged.

But ever since its foundation more than a century ago, the Amateur Boxing Association (ABA) has banned women from fighting competitively in Britain. This week it lifted that ban. Two 13-year-old girls -Emma Brammer and Andrea Prime prepared themselves to create sporting history by fighting in a Stoke-on-Trent nightclub. But the pressure of adverse publicity led to yesterday's cancellation of the match. The cancellation was appropriate. For adult women to fight may seem violent and unpalatable, but to allow teenagers - too young to vote or drink - to risk themselves in the boxing ring is

Pugilism dates back to the ancient Olympic arenas where men sparred — often to the death — with iron studded gloves. In

Most people take the same view of female. Britain; until the end of the 19th century fighters competed in bare-knuckled bouts. But the first written rules of boxing were published in 1743 by Jack Broughton who encouraged the wearing of "mufflers" on the fists. Since then the history of boxing has largely been the history of attempts to regulate it - to limit the damage which it can do. This is never more the case than today as male pugilists increasingly abandon artistry for raw power. Almost certainly, if such a sport were invented today it would not gain Olympic licence or public approval. To encourage female boxing now is folly.

The physical risks of this sport - cut eyes, detached retinas, concussion and brain damage - have long been acknowledged. With women there is the added danger of injury to delicate breast tissues. Most of the ABA's medical advisers as well as the British Boxing Board of Control strongly oppose the decision to permit women to fight

compentively. There are hundreds of different sports to enjoy. Almost all are better suited to the female frame and strength than boxing. Emma Brammer and Andrea Prime have grace, skill and athleticism. They have an admirable energy and motivation. These would be more safely and productively channelled into another arena.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

higher and they should pay back

some of the cost of their training, then

why exempt anyone? If it is because

well-off parents are expected to pay for

their (adult) children's university edu-

That universities must be funded and that the old system was un-

sustainable is well known, but let us at

least have clarity about who should

pay and why. Better still, let us spread the cost, through income tax, amongst all those people in society who could

afford it since it is society as a whole

that will benefit from a well educated

Incidentally, those future graduates

whose income prospects are so much

better as a result of their education

would in their turn, pay a corres-

pondingly higher part of the cost of

Warden, Glenalmond College, Perth.

From the Reverend Stephen Jones

Sir, In arguing that we should "not shed tears for those who are going to

earn a great deal more because of the

degree they get" in order to justify the

imposition of E1,000 tuition fees on

university students (report, Septem-

ber 29), David Blunkett overlooks two

First, politicians of all parties have

been telling us for years that the "country" needs more better-educated

young people, and it therefore follows that it is not only the students who

benefit from their education. Second-

ly, the gaining of a degree does not

necessarily guarantee earning a

The philistinism of the previous ad-

ministration has certainly taken root.

What happend to education for its

educating future generations.

IAN G. TEMPLETON,

Yours faithfully.

undoubted facts.

great deal more".

Yours faithfully.

30 North Road.

September 29.

STEPHEN JONES,

Carnforth, Lancashire.

intervention of lawyers.

cation, why not say so?

Who should bear the cost of an educated workforce?

From Dr Clive Coen

Sir, I regard the Government's intention of turning students into customers (reports, October I; leading article, October 2) as perilous.

The academic record of this country has been largely based on early spe-cialisation by a small segment of society during a short undergraduate career. A welcome expansion in university attendance has been achieved in recent years. Moreover, long await-ed plans to broaden the sixth-form curriculum are at last being discussed. It will soon be apparent that our undergraduate courses are unsuitably specialised for the post-baccalaureat generation.

In the face of international competition we shall therefore need to extend these courses to ensure that a sufficiently high level of specialisation is eventually achieved. Yet, ironically, the notion that the beneficiary of university education is the individual investor, rather than society as a whole, is bound to diminish the opportunity for development in this area.

Student investors will naturally favour courses that bear fruit rapidly, and since most of them will have modest means, they will resist the proposition that the investment be extended. It thus seems clear that students with above average financial resources will colonise those undergraduate courses which are essentially academic (as opposed to vocational) and postgraduate degrees, which will be a prerequis-

ite for the highly paid professions. Our universities, already in transition, must not be allowed to regress through market forces into latter-day versions of polytechnics or ivory towers. They are national resources and should be sustained by raising income tax. Breaking its promise not to do so might be more popular than the Government imagines.

Yours faithfully. CLIVE COEN King's College London, Biomedical Sciences Division, Strand, WC2. October 1.

Trial by jury

From Mr Nicholas Wood

tem of summary justice.

Sir, I note with alarm that the right to

trial by jury may be done away with

for a number of "middle-ranking"

crimes, "such as theft, handling stolen

goods and some sexual offences" (re-

port, September 27). Were this to hap-

pen, the judicial system will be

whittled down even further to a sys-

Justice is far too important for

changes to be advocated merely for

political or financial expediency. The

effect of even a minor case, such as

stealing a bottle of water, can have

catastrophic consequences on defen-

dants' lives, most of whom will natur-

ally prefer the ruling of 12 people to

summary justice.
The jury system also provides a con-

stant public check on the excesses of

the judiciary and the police. Do we

really want sharia courts, or justice

dispensed in the back of a police van?

20 South Hill Park Gardens, NW3.

Sir, Given that you had the full con-

tents of my letter to departmental Heads of Information (report, Octo-

ber 2), I was surprised at the un-balanced account of its contents.

While it is true that I said the Gov-

ernment Information Service could

raise its game", I did so in the context

of explaining that the new Govern-

ment does not see communications as

an add-on, but as central, and there-

fore a real opportunity for the GIS. I

also paid tribute to the role of the Civil

Service press officers, both in hand-ling the transition and in the success

Sir, Your report ("Moody boy who be-

came true hero of empire". September 29) was marred by a somewhat mor-

bid inaccuracy. Clive did not shoot

himself, although he is sometimes

supposed to have attempted to do so at

an early stage of his career. To quote

from a letter from my ancestor Sir.

Francis Sykes, a close friend and ally,

to Warren Hastings, written less than

A few days ago died greatly lamented our friend Lord Clive, and the very ill, with his

usual Complaint, Fitts and Spasms, yet be-tween you & me there is not a doubt but he

shortened his life by a Penknife and thrust-

Kingsbury Croft, Kingsbury Street.

Letters for publication may

be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Business letters, page 29

a month after Clive's death:

ing it into the Jugular Vein.

Marlborough, Wiltshire.

Yours faithfully.

JOHN SYKES,

September 29. .

III) II OII-Structure East-

of the Government so far.

ALASTAIR CAMPBELL

(Chief Press Secretary). 10 Downing Street, SWI.

Death of Clive

From Sir John Sykes

Yours faithfully,

October 2.

Information 'game'

From Mr Alastair Campbell

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS WOOD.

September 27.

From Dr George Boulos

Sir. The present Government was elected on, amongst other pledges, the promise of a commitment not to raise taxes for those of us in the higher in-

Is it not obvious from its intention to charge tuition fees to students from such families while exempting those in the low-income bracket that this is their backdoor way to levying more taxes on the higher earners? Indeed, is it not a very shrewd manoeuvre to increase the fee contribution year after year while pretending to shield the less able?

If, as Mr Blunkett stated, the justification for introducing the contribution lies in the premise that those for-tunate enough to obtain the necessary education to enable them to repay back the loan upon employmen should consider it a justifiable bur-den, why then should it matter whether they come from high or low-earning families?

The obvious deduction must be that this is Labour's scheme to get back to its old ways of ever increasing the burden of taxation on the profes-

Yours truly, GEORGE BOULOS, Tilehurst Surgery, Tylers Place, Pottery Road, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire. September 29.

From the Warden of Glenalmond College

Sir, Like most of my profession, and many outside it, I am very much against the charging of fees to university students. Mr Blair's remarks on the subject yesterday only served to highlight a serious logical inconsistency in his party's thinking on this

We are told that fees will be charged, that loans will be given, but that students from low-income families will be exempt. Why?

If it is because, as has been argued. graduates' incomes in later life are

Suing of teachers

From Mr V. S. Anthony

Sir, Edward Fennell's article on suing teachers ("A lawyer for every lecturer?". Law. September 22) quotes solicitor David Isaac who predicts that American attitudes will spread. If so, the time has come to reverse the trend; things have already gone too far. The quality of our children's education is suffering as much needed resources are being diverted to defend against

The efforts to use legislation to pro-tect children have frightened off those who would willingly organise valuable activities. Children are the losers. At least one educational charity is giving up organising holiday courses be-cause the potential legal hazards are too great: there are even dangers in refereeing games.

A recent survey of head teachers in the Headmasters' and Headmistress-

Marriage annulment

From Fr Roderick Strange Sir, The interview with Sheila Rauch.

the former wife of Congressman Joseph Kennedy II, who is protesting about annulment procedures within the Catholic Church, makes painful reading (September 23). It gave me the impression that she had not received some simple basic information about the nature of annulment. But it also caused me to turn again to the account of these procedures by your former correspondent, the late Peter Nichols, in his book, The Pope's Divisions

He was discussing matrimonial tri-bunals in the United States and wrote

These tribunals give a strange impression

... because they are quite different from
divorce hearings or, for that matter, any form of legal proceeding familiar to Anglo-Saxons. They are a sitting of evidence gath-ered from a variety of sources and there is no clash between two parties. This is why psychiatrists are often deeply impressed with the tranquillity of annulment proceedmgs compared with the malevolence and emotional damage that easily follow a bit-terly contested divorce case. A strong arguent can be made for the assertion that divorces, as a general rule, have a damaging effect, while annulments can be beneficial In both, a sense of failure is involved but in the process of annulment the human issues are not lost from sight.

Yours faithfully, RODERICK STRANGE, English Martyrs, St George's Road Wallasey, Wirral, Merseyside. September 23.

Authors' brainstorms

From Professor B. Brinkworth, FEng Sir, I have been enjoying the memorable corrections (letters, September 10, 17). My own favourite reads: CORRIGENDUM

to One-hundred-and-Eleventh Report of the Engineering Physics Sub-Committee Aeronautical Research Council Page I, 4th line from bottom of the page: delete "possible" insert "impossible

The (somewhat embarrassed) Secretary of the Sub-Committee at the

47 Cae'r Wenallt, Cardiff.

Yours faithfully, BRIAN BRINKWORTH, Cotswold House,

es' Conference showed that help with legal problems was the service they most wanted expanding. The time they spend on such problems is time not spent on educating their pupils. Parents say that their top priority in and yet that job is being made more difficult and time-consuming by the

Our schools strive manfully, under

market pressure, to deliver the best possible academic results. The extra pressure which comes from the threat of legal action if results are not good will hardly attract more able people to a teaching profession already experiencine serious recruitment problems.

Yours faithfully. VIVIAN ANTHONY (Secretary). The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, 130 Regent Road, Leicester. September 23.

RA exhibition

From Dr Justin Seabrook

Sir, The objection by Mrs Eva Bellm (letter, September 29) to the painting of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, surrounded by pictures of female genitalia in the Royal Academy Sensation exhibition seems as illogical to me as the arguments put forward by critics of the portrait of Myra Hindley.

I have seen neither picture and have no great desire to do so, but censorship is not an answer to offensive material. All we may reasonably ask is that those displaying such art take sensible steps to warn potential visitors that the exhibits may upset them.

We are not a "Christian society"; we are a multicultural, multifaith society. No interest group (religious or secular) should have the right to impose their particular beliefs and prejudices on others. It is intolerance rather than modern art that is damaging contemporary society.

Yours faithfully, JUSTIN SEABROOK. 9 Collingwood Road, Northampton. September 29.

London fashion

From Miss Karen Vincett

Sir, While I commend your recent coverage of London Fashion Week, I feel compelled to express my utter disappointment at the generally-poor and superficial media coverage of this spectacular event. Television broadcasts have been few and far between and, to say the least, lighthearted.

But fashion is not meaningless fun. As we prove our own artistic and design talent to the rest of the world, London Fashion Week heralds our success in playing host to no fewer than 53 designers and their shows.

The quest begins with educating the public to recognise that this is a serious industry. The effects of it reach

Pashion is big business. London is the place to be.

Yours sincerely, KAREN VINCETT (Fashion design graduate), 14 Pipers Croft, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, October 1.

Replanting after the Great Storm

From the Chairman of the Conservation Committee

of the Garden History Society Sir, May I comment on your report of September 26, "Given time, Mother Nature heals all", marking the ap-

proach of the tenth anniversary of the

Great Storm of October 16, 1987. Although the natural flora and fauna of England are important to us, they are not as significant as the English countryside as an aesthetic achievement. Generations of landowners have improved our landscape to answer their sense of beauty, in particular in parks; these contribute enormously, despite being only 2 per cent of England's land area. Today's picturesque improvers include the Gov-ernment itself, principally through the

Countryside Commission The Great Storm was a disaster and an opportunity at the same time. English Heritage set up a scheme for the repair of storm damage in "outstanding" parks, whilst the Countryside Commission set up Task Force Trees to deal with other parks and the wider countryside. Having been responsible for the English Heritage scheme, I can say that its priorities were as follows: 1. To persuade owners of important historic parks and gardens that spe-

cialist advice is needed for their conservation. 2. To promote the philosophical and practical understanding of park and garden conservation by consultants. To put trees back in the ground (seen as the necessary political justifi-

cation for spending public money). The English Heritage scheme was (as far as I know) the first one worldwide specifically for historic parks and gardens. It and the Task Force Trees work afterwards became the springboard for the present Countryside Stewardship scheme run by MAFF and the Heritage Lottery Fund's urban parks programme.

I regret the impression given by your report that the work of Task Force Trees was a waste of time. Of course it was not. The Great Storm should be reviewed holistically, so that we may learn the lessons of conserving the beauty and complexity of the countryside in the face of great

natural disasters. Yours faithfully, DAVID JACQUES. Chairman, Conservation Committee, The Garden History Society, 77 Cowcross Street, ECI.

Drink and health

September 26.

From Mr Gerald Vinestock

Sir, Since the latest advice (reports. September 26, 29) is that we abandon eating red meat (cancer), white meat (E.coli poisoning) and I have already given up fruit and vegetables (pesticides), the bulk in my diet now consists of the recommended solitary aspirin each day.

Fortunately consumption of red wine is still permitted (letters, September 20, 25, 30), but can Dr Stuttaford tell me how many bottles I require to consume each day in order to achieve a balanced diet?

Yours faithfully, GERALD VINESTOCK. 2 Overhead Cottages, Capernwray, Carnforth, Lancashire. September 30.

From Mr A. W. L. Frentzel-Fraser Sir, Could Dr Stuttaford, whose views on drink are known to all, tell us what he eats — if anything.

Yours faithfully. A. W. L. FRENTZEL-FRASER, Squirrels' Run, Chalk Lane, East Horsley, Surrey. October 1.

Poet's plight

From Mr Neil Curry

Sir, Your obituary (September 26) implies that the poet Edwin Brock was not close to his mother. I don't know how he felt when he was ten, but in later life he was very fond of her. and especially of her malapropisms. When things were going badly for him once, she consoled him with the words: "Never mind, son, it's just a phrase you're going through."

Yours faithfully, **NEIL CURRY** 2 Trinity Gardens, Ulverston, Cumbria. September 26.

North and South

From Mr Jim Wills

Sir, In your leading article on regional accents ("Brum's the word", October l) you say that "in his constituency of Sedgefield [Tony Blair] drops 'ayes' and other Northumberland idioms into his speech".

I am puzzled as to why Mr Blair should drop Northumberland idioms into his speech when Sedgefield's in Co Durham. It is my experience that the people of Durham have almost as much love for the natives of Northumberland as they have for those of Westminster (wherever that is).

Yours etc. J. WILLS, 14 Kirk Street. Stillington, Stockton-on-Tees. October 2.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALAÇE untary organisations who gave their services at the time of the Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales and who helped with the collection and distribution of flow-ers laid by members of the public were invited to Tea with The Queen this afternoon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE October 3: The Princess Royal today carried out the following engagements in Phoenix, Arizona, United States of America. Her Royal Highness this morning opened the High Technology Conference at Motorola

University.
The Princess Royal later toured the Garfield and Coronado Neighbourhood Community Polici

ing programme. Her Royal Highness this after-noon attended a Luncheon given by the Governor of Arizona (The Honorable Jane Dee Hull) at the Executive Building of State

The Princess Royal later opened the British Event, part of the UK/AZ Festival for retail shops, at

Biltmore Fashion Park. Her Royal Highness this evening attended the Mayor's Receprion given by the Mayor of Phoenix at the Hyan Regency Horel. The Princess Royal afterwards

amended a Dinner at the Phoenix Art Museum for supporters of the UK/AZ Festival. Her Royal Highness finally

KENSINGTON PALACE October 2: The Duke of Glouces ter. President, British Consultants Bureau, was received by the Gov-ernor of Aden (Mr Taha Ahmad

Ghanim) this morning. Later His Royal Highness visited Christchurch and sub-sequently laid a Wreath at the Commonwealth War Graves Ma'ala Cemetery, the Republic of

The Duke of Gloucester later visited the ancient water disterns Tawila Tanks, and afterwards opened the new offices of the British Council in Aden. This afternoon His Royal High-

ness attended a Luncheon given by the Governor of Aden at the Diplomatic Club and later laid a Wreath at the Silent Valley Military Cemetery.
Afterwards The Duke

Gloucester toured the harbour by boat and this evening attended a Dinner given by the Aden Cham-ber of Commerce. YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE' October 2: The Duke of Kent, in Britain, this morning left Garwick Airport, London, for Dal-las, Texas, United States of

America.

His Royal Highness this evening attended a fund-raising Dinner at the Hotel Crescent Court,

Captain Dominic Hampshire is in anendance.

Royal engagement

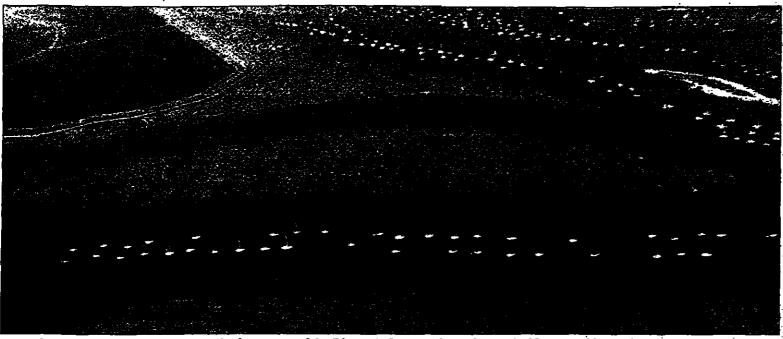
Princess Margaret, as President, the NSPCC, will visit the society's Norfolk Child Protection Team at 246 High Street, Gorleston, Great

Service dinner

Major D. Ide-Smith, President of the Honourable Artillery Com-pany Mess Chub, presided at a dinner held last night at Armoury Walford, Field Marshal Lord Vincent of Coleshill, Master Gunner St James's Park, and the Earl of Selborne, FRS, also spoke.

Election

Mr Ted Chandler to be President of



For sale: Samphire Island, Essex, in the estuary of the River Blackwater, ringed by moored boats and half-submerged at high tide

Your private island, and a title too, for £70,000

BY JOANNA BALE

AN UNINHABITED island haunted by the ghosts of excise men murdered by smugglers 300 years ago

The 70-acre Samphire Island in the River Blackwater, Essex, is being offered for £70,000 with a Lordship of the Manor title granted by Henry VIII. Half-submerged at high tide, it takes its name from edible sea asparagus that grows there. It lies in the estuary of the river between the

yachting villages of West Mersea and Tollesbury. once feuding fishing communities whose rivalry was made famous by the Rev Sabine Baring-Gould in his classic Victorian thriller Mehala.

popular haunt of smugglers who used flat-bottomed boats to bring contraband ashore in the dozens of tiny creeks and inlets along the banks of the remote

Local legend has it that a group of excise men were murdered and their bodies buried in the mud when they stumbled on a gang of smugglers. Today yachtsmen moor off its shores and the only visitors are the occasional bird-watcher or wildfowler. References to Samphire Island, also known

locally as Sunken Island, go back to the Norman Conquest and it was also mentioned in the Domesday Book. According to the owners, German-based Vladi

£25,000: 66SP 620003, £15,002,

West Midlands; 7HL 968651, EZ,039, Dorset; 41HB 002995,

£2,000, Berkshire: 39AN 183323

£12,170, Hereford and Worcester; 47GW 719942, £10,400, London

Borough of Ealing: 70BP 710666, £10,150, Oxfordshire: 21GF 926557, £13,526, Devon: 54SK 544893,

EI0,265, Co Down: 9BZ 934890,

E14,000, East Sussex; 66BS 183921 £20,000, Staffordshire; 28HI

454033, £20,000, East Sussex; 53RZ

744330, El,700, Co Armagh; 44NT 092765, El0,450, Surrey; 30KN 457133, E20,000, Surrey; 50GN 673820, El9,000, Kent; 56DL 480885, E20,000, Essex; 53TN

651007, E19,995, City of London; 42PT 734248, £4,100, London Bor-

ough of Barnet; 22YW 980887, 2850, Kent; 9QB 844216, £945, Surrey; 34ZT 604649, £722, Kent.

The following have been installed officers of the Company of Tylers and Bricklayers for the ensuing

Master. Mr George Edgar Newlyn Mason-Elliott, Upper Warden, Mr

Denis Roy Munnery: Renter War-

The following have been elected officers of the Clockmakers' Com-

Master, Mr Alderman M.B. Sa-

vory; Senior Warden, Dr C.R.

Lattimore; Renter Warden, Profes

Treasury Counsel to the Crown at

pany for the ensuing year:

for the ensuing year:

Tylers and

Bricklayers

den. Sir Idris Pearce.

Сотралу

Clockmakers'

In the 17th and 18th centuries the river was a Private Islands (VPI), the island has attracted worldwide interest, mainly because with it comes the title of Lord of the Manor of the nearby hamlet of Great Wigborough cum Salcott.

However, the new owner is unlikely to be allowed to set up home on the island as it is in the middle of a site of special scientific interest and close to several important bird and wildlife reserves.

VPI's manager Pedro Arez said: "We have had

nearly 70 serious inquiries. I am not surprised at the level of interest; it is a very attractive island with a title. It may not be possible to develop the island but the owner will have mineral rights. There is also a small income from a wildfowl shooting club that currently rents it."

Genevra Caws, QC

A Memorial Service will be held for Genevra Caws, QC, in the Temple Church, Inner Temple, London EC4, on Thursday, October 16, 1997, at 5pm. All are welcome. For further information please telephone the clerk to James Curtis, QC: 0171 583 0410.

Dinner

Horners' Company The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, was the principal guest and presented the 1997 Horners Award for Plastics to Professor John Amner of the Ford Motor Company, for equip-ment which identifies plastics in materials destined for recycling, at the annual dinner held last night at the Mansion House.

Mr Charles K. Howe, Master, presided, assisted by Mr Jeremy J. Cartwright and Dr Leonard P. Smith, Wardens. Mr Christopher J. Saunders, Headmaster of Lano ing College, was the guest speaker

Luncheon

Mid Atlantic Club Mr John Monks, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Mid Atlantic Club held yesterday at Dartmouth House. Lord Ezra presided.

Reception

Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior was the host at a reception held at the House of Lords on September 18. on behalf of the Biolindustry Association. Goests included key players in the bioscience sector.

Baroness Ludford

The life barony conferred upon Miss Sarah Ann Ludford has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Ludford, of Clerkenwell in the London Borough of Islington.

Baroness Fookes

The life barony conferred upon Dame Janet Evelyn Fookes has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Fookes, of

Premium Bonds

The following Premium Bond prizewinners were announced £100,000: 36AW 643170, winner

has a holding of £2,750 and comes from Wrexham; 60RF 124120, £705, Leicestershire; 9AW 266948, E20,000, West Yorkshire; 8GZ 064434, £4,390, Tyne & Wear; 74HW 487659, £4,150, Pembroke-

E50,000: 40SZ 251421, £17,912, Essex, 18LF 973265, £20,000, Cartmarthenshire, 35GN 03662, £19,505, Essex; 69AF 703001, E1,000, East Sussex; 37AK 029267. E20,000. Warwickshire; 482N 529574, E5,450, Hertfordshire; 62TK 667132, E20,000, Essex: 24HP 909915, £10,000, Kent; 20YB 257120, £6,200, London Borough of Brent: 13MB 138652, £18,400, Cambridgeshire.

Anniversaries today

BIRTHS: Eleanora Duse, actress, Vigevano, Austria, 1858; Pierre Bonnard, painter, Fontenay-aux-Rises, 1867; Louis Aragon, writer. Paris, 1897; Thomas Wolfe, novelist, Ashville, North Carolina, 1900; Eddie Cochran, singer, Oklahoma City, 1938.

DEATHS: St Francis of Assist, 1226; William Morris, poet, primer and Socialist, London, 1896; Gus-tave Stresemann, German Chancellor 1923 and 1924, Nobel Peace laureate 1926, Berlin, 1929; Sir Arnold Bax, Master of the King's Musick 1941-53, Cark, 1953; Sir Malcoim Sargent, conductor, London, 1967; Woody Guthrie, folk singer, New York, 1967; Jean Anouilh, dramatist, Lausanne, 1987; Sir Peter Medawar, medical scientist, Nobel laureate 1960, London, 1987; Sir Alec Issigonis, designer of the Mini car. Birmingham, 1988.

SOS became the international distress signal replacing the call sign CDQ, 1906. The aerosol was patented, 1941 The first British atomic bomb was

tested at the Monte Belio islands off the northwest coast of Australia, 1952.

Postcodes were introduced into

Birthdays today

The Earl of Bradford, 50; Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, 73; Lord Bruce of Donington, 85; Mr Christopher Bruce, ballet dancer and choreographer, 52; Mrs Ingar Brueggemann, secretary general, Interna-tional Planned Parenthood Federation; 64; Lord Denham, 70; Mr R.W. Ellis, former Master, Mari-K.W. Ellis, former Master, Mart-borough College, 68; Sir Terence English, Master, St Catharine's College, Cambridge, 65; Mr Garry Herbert, rower, 33; Sir Roger Hervey, former Vice-Marshal, Diplomatic Corps, 63; Dame Pam-els Hunter, former vice-creations ela Hunter, former vice-president, National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, 78; Lord Knights, 77; Mr T.D. Melville-Ross, Director-General, In-stitute of Directors, 53: Mr William Newton Dunn, former MEP, 56; Earl Peel, 50: Mr Ruggero Raimondi, bass-baritone, 56; Sir Shridath Ramphal, former Secretary-General of the Commonn, 69; Mr John chairman and managing director, The British Land Company, 62:

Sudan Defence Force Sir Donald Hawley presided at the annual luncheon of the Sudan Defence Force Dinner Club held yesterday, at The Army and Navy Club. Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore was the guest of honour.

Latest wills

sor A. Boksenberg; Junior War-den, Sir George White. **Insurers' Company** The following have been installed officers of the insurers Company Master, Mr John Phillips: Senior Warden, Mr Charles Bowman;

Junior Warden, Mr Peter Purchon. Legal appointment Mr David Perry to be Junior

viscount Sidmouth, 83; Mr Gore Vidal, author, 72; Judge Monique Viner, QC, 71; Mr Reg Withers,

former Governor, Brixton prison,

Service luncheon

Sir Tobias Rodgers, antiquarian bookseller, publisher, and journal-ist, of London W9, left estate valued at £629,501 net. Margaret Isabel Hunt, of Raithby, Spilsby, Lincolnshire, left estate valued at £2,454,232 net. Michael John Levi, of Shatterford, near Bewdley, Hereford and Worcester, left estate valued at

£1,370,863 net. Violet Jane Matton, of Seaford, East Sussex, left estate valued at E1,696,269 net

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines COMMODORE: P A Dunt to be promoted to Rear Admiral, 5.1.98, and to be Director General Naval Personnel Strategy and Plans/Chief of Staff to Second Sea Lord and Commander in Chief Naval Home Command in succession to Rear Admiral R B Lees. CAPTAIN: J W A Clayden t Sultan in rank of Cdre, 4.3.98; M.G. Lane to Staff of FOSF, 23.1.98; J.L. rns to MoD London, 30.1.98 SURGEON CAPTAIN: D A Cunningham to UKSU AFSouth, 22.10.97.

COMMANDER: A R C Bennett to Nato Brussels in rank of A/Capt, 20.10.97; R W Gibb to FOSM Northwood, 3.10.97; T Johns to MoD London, 19/12/97; M W Westwood to MOD London, 27.2.98

MAJOR: CWP Hobson - CTCRM COMMANDER N.C. Jackson.

12.12.97; G F Noble, 12.12.97. The Army COLONEL: J D Lacey to deputy Commander HQ Colchester Garrison, 29.9.77, R K Williams to

HQ Landcent, I.10.97; D M H Wright to Unicom Team, 29.9.97 COLONEL J G Aldous, late RRF,

3.10.97; J S Doody, late R Signals, 30.9.97; A J Hamilton, late RAMC. 30.9.97; D E Smith, late RAPC,

University news

The LJ. Witts Prize in Haematology or Gastroenterology 1996-97 has been awarded to Stuart Fernie Mucklow, of Christ Church.

The Bristol-Myers prize in Cardi-ology 1997 has been awarded to Parashkev Choudomirov Nachev The John Potter Essay prize 1997 has been awarded to Stephen Paul

Royal Holloway Professor John Lowe, of the Geog-

raphy Department, has been elected Dean of Science from

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.M. Bolton and Mrs S.J. Haslam

The engagement is announced between Tony Bolton of between Tony Bolton, of Heathcone, Derbyshire, and Sally Haslam (nee Botterill), of East Sheen, London, Mr D.L. Brown and Miss E.J. Roberts

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs Richard Brown, of Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire, and Emma-Jayne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Roberts, of Knaresborough, North Yorkshire.

Mr P.A. Cleaver and Miss LB. Solway
The engagement is announced
between Paul, son of Sir Anthony and Lady Cleaver, of Warsash, Hampshire, and Imogen, daugh-ter of Mr Grahame Solway, of Stockbridge, Hampshire, and Mrs Vanessa Solway, of Sonning, Berkshire.

Berksture.

Sir John Drinkwater Q.C.

and Mrs J.T. Boscawen

The engagement is announced between John Drinkwater, of Meysey Hampton Manor, Gloucestershire, and Deirdre Boscawen, of Pennshill, Lower Slaughter, Gloucestershire. The marriage will take place quietly in January.

Mr A.E.H. Estand and Miss C.V. Coleman

The engagement is announced between Adam Edward Hamilton. elder son, of Mr and Mrs J.R. Ealand, of Mount Warning, New South Wales, Australia, and Clare Victoria, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D.P. Coleman, of

Mr J.E. Goldring and Miss E.K. Geren The engagement is announced between Jeremy, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Goldring, of Preston, Rutland, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr James Geren, of Iowa, United States, and Mrs Susan Hovey, also of Iowa.

Mr A.B. Holmes and Miss R.L. Coles The engagement is announced between Archibald, son of Mr and

Mrs B.A.J. Holmes, of Benenden, Kent, and Rachel, younger daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs J.E.A. Coles, of Hambrook, Bristol. Mr S. Matthewson

and Miss R.J. Quinnell The engagement is announced between Scott, elder son of Mr and Mrs Murray Matthewson, of Cambridge, and Becky, daughter of Dr and Mrs Philip Quinnell, of

The Hon A.F. Eden and Miss L. Bartlett

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Nancy Lady Henley and of the late Lord Henley, and Liann. daughter of Mrs Patricia Vasbinder, of New Hampshire, United States and Mr Robert Bartlett, of New Jersey. United States. The marriage will take place on October 10, 1997 in Concord, New Hampshire.

and Miss A.R. Curtis

The engagement is announced between lan, son of Mr and Mrs Colin Newcombe, of Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, and Ann, youngest daughter of Group? of Worplesdon, Surrey. Mr A.I. Normile and Miss L.B. Whitaker

The engagement is announced between Alan, son of Mr and Mrs. Alan Normile, of Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Whitaker, of Glenfarg, Perthshire.

Mr S.A. Rodwell and Miss L.R. Beattic The engagement is announced between Sam, son of Ian Rodwell of Upper Hartfield, Sussex, and Jennifer Rodwell, of London, and Rosheen, daughter of Nick and Gaye Beattie, of

Mr P. Seccia The engagement is announced-between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs. John Sectia, of New York City, New York, and Lisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Docherty, of Nairobi, Kenya.

Mr W.J.G.R. Yonge and Miss A.E.J. Bennett The engagement is announced between William Yonge, of Fulham, only son of Mr and Mrs' Philip Yonge, of Sedlescombe, East Sussex, and Amelia, elder daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Bennett, of Parson's Green, Fulbam.

Marriage

Mr W.E.P.M. Butler-Sloss and Miss V.C. Harwood
The marriage took place on Thursday, September 4, 1997, in Gibraltar, of Mr William Edmund Patchell Minchin Butter-Sloss younger son of Mr Joseph and the Right Hon Dame Elizabeth Butler-Night Finn James Enzarem bouler-Sloss, of Temple, London, to Miss... Victoria Claire Harwood, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Harwood, of Nicosia, Cyprus. The bride was attended by Amanda

Church news

The Rev Colin Bell, Curate, Whit-Woods (Blackburn): to be and Christ Church (same diccess) The Rev David Bickersteth, Priest n-Charge, Harraby St Eli Carlislei: to be Priest-in-Charge.

Maryport (same diocese), The Rev Philip Brew, Team Vicar, Horwich St Elizabeth (Man-chester): to be Vicar, Lostock St Thomas and St John (same

dioceseL The Rev Philip Caton, Team Vicar, Parr St Paul (Liverpool): to Birkdale St John (same diocese).

The Rev Hugo Charteris, Assistant Curate, Byker St Mark and Walkergate (Newcastle): to be Priest-in-Charge, New Perry St Mark (Chester). The Rev Christopher Dalliston. Vicar, Boston St Botolph (Lincoln): to be also Rural Dean of Holland

East (same diocese). The Rev Andrew Dawson, Vicar, Shevington St Anne (Blackburn): to be international Officer (and Team Leader for Evangelism, Scumenism and International Af-

fairs) (same diocese). The Rev Alan Denyer, Rector, Lydbury North w Hopesay and Edgton (Hereford): to be NSM Assistant Priest, Long Pregion w Tosside, and Slaidburn (Black-

The Rev Raymond Elbourne, Rec-tor, Odd Rode (Chester) became also Rural Dean of Congleton (same diocese). The Rev Paul Harris, Vicar,

Bitterne Holy Saviour (Win-chester): to be Head of Evangelism at the Evangelical Alliance. The Rev Toby Humphry, Cu Westhoughton St Bartholomew (Manchester); to be Team Vicar, Atherton with special respon-sibility for St John the Baptist Canon Paul Jobson,

Scaham w Seaham Harbour (Dutham): to be Priest-in-Charge, Pinrlico St Saviour (London). The Rev Jacqueline Kendall, Assistant Curate, Helshy, Alvanley and Manley, and Dumham-on-the-Hill. (Chester): to be Assistant Curate. Timperley (same diocese).

The Very Rev Brian Horlock, Dean of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Gibraltar, and also Chaplain, Gibraltar (Europe) retired June 7.

The Rev Mary Hudson, NSM, Kings Norton St Nicholas (Birmingham) retired August 31.

The Rev Edward O'Connor, Chaplain, HIMP Kingston (Postsmouth) retired September 20. The Rev Brian Porter, Assistant Chaplain, Christ Charch Amster dam (The Netherlands, Europe) to . retire October 15 The Rev Ted Pratt, Vicar, Southsea-St Simon (Portsmouth) to retire October 3 for health reasons.

Other appointment Ann Conway Jones, to be Assistant Chaptain, Birmingham University (Birminghani) 🗼

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This much I will admit: I am a follower of the new way (the sect they speak of) and it is in the manner that I wonship the God of our fathers. Acts of the Apostles 24: 14 BIRTHS LAUGHTON-SCOTT - On September 15th, to Jacquelius (née de East) and Oliver, a son, Hugh Edward Marcel, a brother for Louisa BIRTHS

BEDUER - On September 30th in Faris, to Olivia (née Scriven) and Cherles, a son, Auguste, a brother for Ophélie and Hilsira. CHAMPION - On 27th September 1997 in Edinburgh, to Jennifer (nd-Mackey) and Stephen, a son Tobermory Cameron Mackey-Chemylol 200PSR - On Sept

Norvall Paris.
AWESETT - On 1st October
1997, to Andrew and Meola
Cafe Barker), a son, Thomas
Penil Anthony, a brother for
Michael and Hatther. HARRINGTON - On October 1st, at the Clinique Ste isabelle, Neully-sur-Schoo to Isabella and David, 2 20 (Nicholas Richard John).

HEMPERSON - On 25th September, to Alison (nee Lloyd-Jones) and Guy, a son, Lloyd-Jones; som over, and George.

Holland - On September 29th 1997, to Kate (Webb) and Christian, a son.

Hollywood - On 25th September, to Sarah (née: Thomas) and Peess, a lovely daughter, Amelia Ganca.

Josep - On 27th September 1997 at The Royal Redealdre Hospital, to Sharon (née: Bickhall) and Reli, a son, Oliver Glayton Paul, a houtest for Ashley.

MELLY - On 26th September at

heother for Assey.

RELLY - On 26th September at
The Portland Hospital, to
Sus (nés Lovick) and Jessey,
a besurful daughest, Calos.

REK - On 30th September
1997, to Sophis (nés Leven
Johnston) and Charile, a
daughest, Mamie Honoria.

DEATHS

LOVD - On September 25th 1997, to Virginia (née Rameiro) and Christopher, a beautiful daughter, Verity Jade, a sister for Matilda. God's richest blessing.

McDQMALD On 28th September at The Portland Hospital, to Janet (née Peacott) and Malcolm, a son

ingovatry - On October 1st 1997, to Mandy (née Bamett) and Gery, a son, Matthew Richard, a hotther for Nieholas, Always remembering Alica, PARKER-JERVIS
September 24th, to Vice
(née Hutchison)
Andrew, a son, Clovis Ger
Baltoer, A little boother

RODRIGUEZ - On 27th September, to Eate (née Overingeon) and Nicholas, a drughter, Helena Lucinda Theresa, a sister for Fraderick

short illness, Francis Ambrose, baloved and loving hosband of Pat, father of Simon and Caroline and much loved grandfather. Funeral at Dean Prior Church, near Buckfestleigh, on Thundry 9th October at 12.30 pm. Flowers to Gill and Enles, 36A Jordan Street, Bockfestleigh,

BAYFORD - David Aithana on 28th September 1977, aged 56. Beloved haskand of the late Feggy, much loved, father of Robin and Georgina and grandfather of Candilla and grandfather or and Aloc. Puneral at 1

BELCHAMSER - Olive (née More). Suddenly on 28th September, Sunday, at home aged 72 years. Cremation 2.30 pm Monday 6th October at Woscester Crematarium at Woscester Crematarium 2.30 pm Monday 6th Genber at Woosester Chematonium. No flowers please but dosations if desired to the Raligious Society of Friends c/o 2. Hill & Sons, Penshore, Wortes. Sadly missed by family and friends. May she rest in peace.

Monday 29th September 1997 aged 88 years. Formerly of Camberland latterly of Live Formetly of Camberland, latterly of Liverpool and Quarry Bank School. A gentle man, beloved of wife, children and geamfoldiden. Service and creatation at Springwood Crematorium, Liverpool, on Monday October 6th 1997 at 3.15 pm. Family flowers only but depositions to RVLL. departies to RRLL is ideated aged 73 years after a long brave fight on 30th September 1997. Father of Adrian, Andrew, Frances and Alicia, grandfather of Oliver, Blannor, Sophie, jack, Freddle, Harriet and Louisa. A great character who will never be forgotten by those who knew hin, Femenal at Mattingley Church on Tuesdry 7th October 1997 at 230 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to

Injused Jockeys Pund.

JEFFERY - Cyrll Cole FECS

"Jeff" en October 1st 1997
pencefully in Easter aged 86.
Dearest hesbund of the late
joy and a much loved father
of Rosalind, Andaws and
Corinne. Funeral Service
Taursday October 9th St.
Lukes. Parish Church,
Countess West, Eoster 12
noon followed by private
creamation. Family flowers
othly please.

Kinss. Lewis - Dr. Frederick
Lionel on October 1st
pencefully in his steep at
home in his 89th year.
Dearly loved husband of
Jonn and devoted father of
Jean and devoted father of
Katia Beloved Physician and
friend, Private cremation.
Please, no flowers but
demarke, no flowers but friend, Private cremation. Flease, no flowers but towardons if desired, to The Sumaricans and Rivil c/o Chaises Funeral Directors, 2608 Fultars Rusc, Leader SWIO 9EL. Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held at St Luke's Church, Sydney Suset, SWI on 16th October at I pm.

ر در المستقد الإن الذي المراجع المراجع المراجع والمراجع المراجع المراجع

Kind-Horsestl - Dodon f. (ade Eves), passed away passessily at home in Devon on 1st October 1997. Will be saidly missed by Eal and her friends. Former Major in the MTC 41st Company, Exeter 1945-6. Funeral Service to be held at the Exeter & Devon Crematorium on Tuesday 7th October at 11.15 am. For flowers please but denations if desired for Camora Research are being accepted also Overmass &

LESLIE - Michael (Mike). Romar Chesides Master at Fettes College, Edinburgh. Vary suddénly at Zastera General Hospital, Edinburgh, on October lat 1997. Mike, aged 72 years, much lovéd and loving husband, father and grandfather. A service will be held at St Adrians Church, Gallane, on Wednesday October 8th at 1.45 ps. to which all friends are invited. Chumation private thereafter. Family flowers only please.

times - Joseph Ginchstein. On October 1st, at home, syst 92, son of Calman and Entry Links, behaved husband of Masy Lutyens for 52 years and stepherhendynandfather of Amenda, Ames, Nicole and Adam. Cremation Collera Green at 11.45 Wednesdry October 8th. No flowers places LPSCOMS - Mangaret (Pag née Ravan) en les Octobes, aged 79 at Cantarbury Hospital. Widow of John M. Lipscomb. mother, grandmother and grant-pandmother. Pensent at Chilithan Church at 2.15pm on Thursday 9th October. Enquiries to A. Welch & Sons (01227) 787801.

gamdnother of Peesce, Line and Joseph Requiem Mass at \$4 Augustine's Church, Tunbridge Wells, on Priday 19th October at 2 pm followed by private cremation. Plowers to St Augustine's Chemic

suddenly at home or September 27th 1997 aged 55, beloved husband of Tanakspiving for his life at 3 pm Fidder, October 10th 1997 at Battersea Parish Church East. Harry's), Esttersea Church East. London SW11. Dunnitions if wished to ERLL All enquiries to J.H. Kenyon (0171) 834-4624.

O'LEANY - Camon Maurice Flunkett, after a short filmes en 51st impust, aged 77, Will be much missed by Ms family, and friends in Harpendes and kround the world. He was best known for his piensering work in devalution would He was best known for his picensering work in developing family counselling and support shryles whilst at CMAC (now Marriage Caro) and in whence cognitives around the world. Heny will recall his late algest hospitality and staryteiling, and in hear years, nowly acquired collinary shifts. He will be remembered for his aredition, wit and life-long strongle with pubertuality.

September pencarully after long illness, Most beloved mother of Jennes and Luke and sister of Petrick. She was a phenomenal whose extrawas a phenomenal woman whose estimated may be received as a sweet years was an example to everyone. Functs 11 am Thursday 9th October at St. Paul's Church, Bedford Street, Covent Genden, London WCZE 9ED.

REDGRAVE - Deirrire Deling (née Hamilton-Hill) on 29th September hences I

RITCHE Lyn, Evelyn Jean Orcutt Eltchie. Wayne County, Michigan, April 24th 1919, Baykinvik, Iceland, September 24th 1997. Lyn served with the Ead Coose in Iceland, England and Punce during. World wir Ir, and also lived in England at Wethersfield AFE for an artended period with her ed period with he ed, 2 US; Air Porce resmand, a U.S. Air Power Colonel, Subsequenty, she worked for US Resws and Report and other American settin, before moving to the Metheriands in 1960 when she handled macheting for KLM Royal Datch Aidines and public relations for the Hilton Hotel group, in 1968, I/m set up her own public relations bursen, El Rindle Associates, Recently, she had decided to return to her decided to retr decided to return to her home country and visit old friends along the way. We will remember her as a warm, wirty, wonderful woman _ a truly inspiring friend. From loving friends and colleagues. Memorial gathering Monday, Outober 6th 1997. Correspondence to: Ann Campbell-Lord, Austahrijk 126, Farr 31-20-675-1102.

ROSERTBOM - Judith (judy)
11th March 1949 - 30th
September 1997. Darding
daughter of Rame and the
late L. Maurice Dale.
Despetately mourned and
missed by her leving
husband, sistens, hrother,
rices, nephews and all who
have may have the or course.

loved mot

smalita - Victor agad 93 died pescefully on September 28th. Very much loved leaband of Manora. Foneral in Cairo Monday October 6th. No flowers but desettens if desired to The Fackinson's Society clo E. Taylor & Sone, 21 Corbett Bood, Curteron. Ordenship

PHE 1940's clothen, three, have flow, publishers (pills, embloy decise, samples, otheral sys-dec, shawin, incrities, costum gradiery on 0171 239 9612 TICKETS FOR SALE TICKETS RUGBY UNION
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Edinburgh on 30th September 1997 Lt. Co.

Industry; belowed husbur of the late Eather, dear loved and loving father. Catherine, Elizabeth an Marilyn, and deares grandfather of Katie, an David Funeral private.

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MILNER GRAY

Milner Gray, CBE, graphic designer, died on September 29 aged 97. He was born on October 8, 1899.

ilner Gray helped to invent the British graphic design industry, and in the course of a long life he changed the very perception of design, and trained many of the best practitioners.

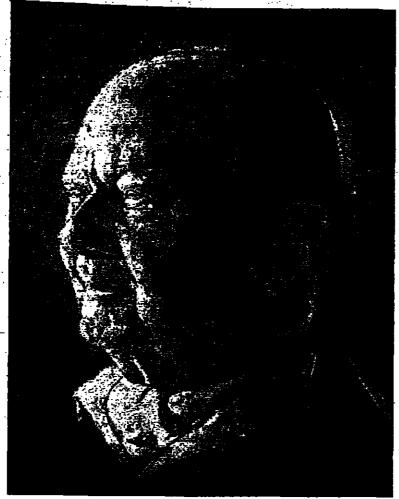
As a young man, he was one of the first in Britain to recognise a change of climate, from the fostering of craft traditions around the turn of the century to an emphasis on art and image as crucial to industry. During the 1920s and 1930s he was one of a small group who brought about a revolution in attitudes.

Realising that modern companies and products needed designers just as modern buildings need architects, they set out to formalise the role of the designer. They saw the significance of the ideas emerging from the Bauhaus in Germany, which were challenging conventional design wisdoms and re-flecting the age of science and technology. But Gray himself never attempted to ape the attitudes or styles of the Bauhaus. Instead, much of his work drew on traditional ideas that were more suited to the British way of life.

He was a consummate draughts man, as much at home with the traditional art of heraldry as with new developments in typography. Although he was essentially a graphic designer, he was also accomplished in the design of products, including ceramics, silverware, glass and fabrics. One of his best-known emblems was the Jaeger lettering, still in use.

Milner Connorton Gray was born in Blackheath at the very end of the last century - and could remember seeing golfers on the heath, wearing red coats. He was educated at Colfe's Grammar School and Goldsmiths' College (where he was later on the visiting staff) before joining the 19th London Regiment dur-ing the First World War, and working on camouflage

in the early 1920s he became half of Bassett-Gray, one of the first group design practices in Britain (it later became the Industrial Design Partnership). This specialisation and concen-



Milner Gray, in Graham Sutherland's last portrait (1980). The two had been friends since they shared a house in the 1920s

tration of design talent was then unus-

During the 1920s Gray shared a house in Blackheath with Graham the practice, designing china and other items. The friendship was to be lifelong, and Sutherland's last portrait, commissioned by the Chartered Sociommissioned by the Chartered Soci-by of Designers, is of Gray.

Gray, however, was concerned not exhibitions division, which produced ety of Designers, is of Gray.

only with his own work and the success ual, but it was of course followed by of his partnership, he had the vision many other consultancies. The scale of to see the importance of setting up the industrial design profession today an organisation to consolidate the would have astonished its pioneers. new profession. In 1929 he and a group of fellow designers founded the Society of Industrial Artists, of which Sutherland, who occasionally helped at he was secretary from 1932 to 1940. He was the only member of the society to be twice elected president (1943-49 and 1966-67).

benign propaganda such as London Pride, Dig for Victory, Poison Gas, America Marches, and The Unconquerable Soul.

At the same time, along with Misha Black and Kenneth Bayes, he was establishing the Design Research Unit. which was to flourish after the war. Their commissions ranged widely, from wine labels to every last detail on the cruise ship Oriana, down to the ashtrays. They were also advisers to such major exhibitions as Britain Can Make It, Design at Work and work for the Festival of Britain with Hugh Casson. In their heyday, when the progress of various projects was discussed in an office forum. Herbert Read was often in the chair.

For the next thirty years, the scope continued to widen, taking in product design, interiors and architectural projects. Gray was especially involved with house-styles and corporate identity programmes for leading companies cluding ICI, Unilever and British Rail. He directed a project for Watney's to make its pubs into a distinctive family, but was also a consultant for Courage and other breweries. Another of his specialities was the design of cigarette packets, such as Guards, and the use of bogus coats of arms to convey a feeling of authority.

He also produced more formal armorial bearings, for the Central Electricity Generating Board and the Post Office, and in 1976, the year of the Queen's Silver Jubilee, he designed the official emblem for street decorations.

Like many designers, Milner Gray was a squirrel. Over the decades he amassed an enormous archive, from which he could produce samples of his and others' drawings for almost any project. Since the 1950s he had lived in the lower part of a vast Palladian ruin.

Always a modest man, he had an infectious and endearing sense of humour, and went on singing wordperfect Gilbert and Sullivan into his nineties. His colleagues and friends were only mystified that his achieve-ments should not have been recognised by any higher honour. Perhaps this was due to his well-known mimickry of Queen Victoria, in whose reign he had been born. He married Guade Osborne-Pratt in

1934. They had no children.

PROFESSOR BERNARD **DIETRICH**

Bernard Dietrich, classicist, died from cancer on September 11 aged 69. He was born on April 7, 1928.

BERNARD DIETRICH was a distinguished classical scholar and a leading authority on Minoan and Mycenean religion, as the several entries under his name in the latest edition of The Oxford Classical Dictionary testify. Born in Berlin, Bernard

Clive Dietrich received the traditional thorough German grounding in the classics that was to equip him well for his life's work. After the turmoil of the Second World War, he came to England in 1946, and took a London honours degree at Southampton, to be folat University College London.

In 1952 his promise was recognised by his appointment as a fellow in classics.

and ancient history at St Andrew's College and as parttime lecturer at Sydney University. In 1955 he became lectures (and five years later senior

lecturer) at the University of the West Indies. Then, at the age of 35, he accepted the chair of classics at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, where he enjoyed 14 happy and successful

By 1977, however, he was keen to return to Europe, and took the chair of classics at Aberystwyth, where he was to remain until his retirement in 1995. He was a highly soughtafter lecturer at overseas conferences and was much involved in European schemes of inter-university co-operation, being closely linked with Programme Mentor (Liège), the Revenue Internationale et Pluridisciplinaire de la Religion Grecque An-

tique (Athens and Liège), the International Council of the Centre d'Etude de la Religion Grecque Antique (Athens) and the Programmes Sciences

Religieuses (Brussels).

For Dietrich, classics was a way of life. Like the Greeks, he hungered after new insights: and he travelled extensively in his quest for knowledge. Like the Greeks, he had a passion for competitive sports, in his case especially squash and tennis; and he had a great love of music and was an accomplished pianist. He also had the sense of wonder of the Greeks in his fondness for

gadgets and computer games: and like the Greeks, he was very much an individualist who liked to do things himself: he was in his element doing odd iobs.

In the best traditions of the classics, he was a rounded, well balanced, civilised personality.

His many publications included Death, Fate and the Gods (1965), The Origins of Greek Religion (1974), A Sense of Guilt (1980) and Tradition in Greek Religion (1986). He is survived by his

wife, Ann, and their three

PROFESSOR J. F. GARNER

Professor J. F. Garner, environmental lawyer, died on September 2 aged 83. He was born on May 6, 1914.

neer in the study and development of environmental law a subject almost unheard of thirty years ago. Garner was one of small number of lawyers who in the early 1970s formed a local Solicitors' Ecology Group and later the national Lawyers' Ecology Group. When the UK Environmental Law Association was formed in 1986, it was he who gave the key speech.

His contribution to the awakening of interest in environmental law was acknowledged by the estab-lishment in 1987 of the annual Garner Lecture Garner's Environmental Law, which began life under his editorship as The Control of Pollution Encyclopaedia in 1975, remains a leading work for practitioners in the subject.

John Francis Garner was educated at Bancroft's School, Woodford Wells, and King's College London, where he took a first in law in 1936, pro-ceeding to LLM in 1938. He followed his father into local



government, serving articles with the town clerk of Brentford and Chiswick, and was admitted a solicitor in 1940. He then served six years in the Army, attaining the rank of major. After holding appointments as deputy town clerk, he was town clerk and clerk of the peace of Andover, 1950-60.

Garner wrote numerous practice works, relating mainbe to various aspects of local government law, which ran to many editions. Fixer were also more substantial works: The Public Control of Land and The Law of Sewers and Drains. He was much teased about the latter, but it is a learned work on a subject of great practical importance, and is still flourishing in its eighth edition.

But Garner hankered after more academic pursuits and, after trying his hand as a parttime lecturer at Southampton University, 1958-60, he was appointed senior lecturer at fore. The whine of the woodman's saw would bring him made his mark as a law teacher and writer, producing his authoritative Administrative Law. The book, on a rapidly growing subject, has undergone many changes and continues in its eighth edition (by Professor Brian Jones) to be a leading work for students.

When a second chair of law was established at Nottingham University in 1964, Garner was appointed Professor of Public Law. It was here that his main work was done. He played a major role in the growth of the law department and in university affairs. Most law teachers are experts in the analysis of case law but Garner had the much rarer gift for expounding the effect of complex statutes in intelligible terms.

He was an enthusiastic comparative lawyer, produc-ing, with Professor Neville Brown, a comparative study of English and French administrative law and participating actively in many overseas conferences. At Nottingham

he was also faculty Dean. He strove to improve the attractive university campus, where his interests in the running from a law tutorial. peremptorily to stop the felling of a tree until he had ascertained from the surveyor that there was a good reason why it had to go. Somewhat impetuous (he himself said he went off at half-cock"), he was admired as a completely loyal colleague and teacher.

Soon after his retirement in 1980, Garner lost his sight. A generally impatient man, he bore his affliction with astonishing aplomb. He continued to edit his books, and even (with Brian Jones) to write a new one (Countryside Law). After the death of his wife, Margaret, in 1989, he lived alone, but he had a small army of willing helpers whom he marshalled for weeks in advance, with great precision, to read, take him for walks, to social occasions, to church, to plays, concerts and even films. He had hardly a dull moment

to the day of his death. Jack Garner is survived by his daughter, Adrienne, and his son, Peter.

PHILIPPE ROSSILLON

Philippe Rossillon, diplomat and head of the committee for the defence and expansion of the French language, died in Paris on September 6 ged 66. He was born or August 10, 1931.

WHEN President de Gaulle made the defence of the French language one of his liplomatic priorities in the 1960s, he turned to Philippe Rossilion to lead the crusade against the encroachment of English in French-speaking countries. For thirty years, Rossillon, a career diplomat, rode out of Paris like a modern day paladin, seeking to slay the Franglais dragon wherever it was to be found whether lurking surreptitiously in bars on the tongues of the young, or staging a more open defiance in an apostate educational institution. He conducted linguistic missions for the preservation of the language to Canada, francophone Africa and to European countries where French is spoken as a minority language.
At all times he had backing

from French governments, and he was something of a hero within the Gaullist movement. Some of his numerous foreign trips were concerned with straightforward encouragement of local French language activists and attendance at conferences. Others, however, were more controversial, and some had a strongly

ciandestine element. In 1968, a year after de Gaulle's inflammatory "Vive le Ouébec Libre" speech. Rossillon, too, found himself in trouble in Canada as a result of somewhat provocative journeyings through Quebec and Manitoba. Pierre Trudeau. who was Canadian Prime Minister at the time, accused him of being "more or less a secret agent, acting clandestinely and surreptitiously". He was declared persona non

CENSOR

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir.-Without touching upon the question of

the total abolition of the Censorship, about

which some difference of opinion may exist.

we would strongly urge that the rejection of

Mr. Laurence Housman's play, without reason assigned, shows clearly the imperative

advisability that the judgment of the Lord

Chamberlain, in his capacity as Censor of Plays, should be made subject to appeal.

We are, Sir, yours faithfully.
Rudoif Besler, J. Comyns Carr. R.C. Carton. C.
Haddon Chambers, Hobert Henry Davies, A.
Conan Doyle, H.V. Esmond, James B. Fagan, W.S.
Gilbert, Sydney Grundy, Henry Hamilton,
Anthony Hope, Jerome R. Jerome, W.S. Maugham,
Louis N. Parker, Cecil Raleigh, Alfred Sutro, L.
Zanowill

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir.-As it is impossible for me to overtake



grata. Friends said the federal authorities suspected him of organising arms sales to Quebec indépendantistes. This charge Rossilion denied aithough he was happy to admit that he had been campaigning actively for the rights of fran-

cophone minorities.

Rossillon graduated from the elite Ecole Nationale d'Administration, and married into the very rich Seydoux family, a Protestant dynasty controlling the Schlumberger oil industry group, the Gaumont and Pathé cinemas, film production, a textile empire and, more recently, the aily newspaper Libération.

The support of the family fortune, added to that of politicians from de Gaulle onwards, enabled Rossillon to plan his linguistic campaigns

on an international scale, particularly later in his life when he combined his efforts for francophonie with those on behalf of latinité, the much larger world family of

languages. Rossillon,

speakers of all Romance

whose early career was in the economic division of the French Foreign Ministry, founded a political movement, Patrie et Progrès, in 1958, the year de Gaulle returned to power. The movement supported Algérie Francaise and proclaimed the need for a new concept, Françalgerie. After Algerian independence in 1962, many Patrie et Progrès activists switched to supporting Quebec separatism and the Walloons in southern Belgium who favoured union with France.

De Gaulle was, in 1966, instrumental in Rossilion's nomination as director of the Haut Comité pour la Défense et l'Expansion de la Langue Française, which he headed gave way to the present Délégation Générale à la Langue Française, attached to the powerful Ministry of Culture. In the mid-1970s Rossillon created a cultural, or linguis-

tic, division of the Ministry of Co-operation, the main task of which is to oversee French aid to Africa. This provided him with another platform from which to defend the language.

The author of two books on de Gaulle and an Atlas de la Langue Française, he also wrote Un milliard de Latins en l'an 2000. Recently, he increased his estimates, saying that of 900 million speakers of Romance languages in the world, 150 million were francophones. This figure he compared with his own estimate of the number of people speaking Eng-lish as a first language, which he put at 500 million.

His patriotism led to to his naming his two sons Kleber and Marceau (after two distinguished soldiers of the French revolutionary wars), while his support for French speakers in Haiti induced him to adopt two young Haitians. In the 1990s, as president of the movement Avenir de la Langue Française, he took advertising companies to court for violating the 1994 law which ruled that no advertisements in France could be published in English only. But when Rossillon took the French branch of Georgia Tech University, which is located in Metz, to court for having an English-only site on the Internet, the judge dismissed the case.

Rossillon is survived by his wife, who worked with him. his two sons and his adopted son and daughter.

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many passed on 29 September 1997 jument to sention 173 of the Companies Act 1985 a payment extended to entitled fact the prepared of senting 300,000,000 of in own ordinary shares by redemption. The minorant of the permissible caginal psymmet for the shares in question is 188 300,000,000. The structure declination of the directors and the auditors' report required by section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for impection at 51 Moorents, London E-22 643. Any evolute of the Company map at any three prior to 3 November 1997, apply to the court under section 174 of the

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need our love and practical support, not just today but everyday. Sadly, money cannot buy healthy kidneys but it can make life worth having.

CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS

and correct all the false excuses for the Censor's recent action which are being invented or imagined at my expense by those who favour a continuation of the present tyranny, may I be allowed very briefly to memion some of the things which my play Donations argently needed by The British Kidney Patient does not contain?. Association, (I) It contains no reference whatever to the FitzHerbert episode, or to the alleged bigalon, Hants, GU35 91Z.

MR. L. HOUSMAN AND THE ON THIS DAY

October 3, 1910 **学型作习**读

Laurence Housman, author and dramatist, brother of A.E. Housman, crossed swords with the Lord Chamberlain, in his capacity as censor. the Lord Chamberbain, in his capacity as censor, over plays which Housman worde about aspects of court life. Housman was supported by such prominent figures as W.S. Cilbert, Somerset Maugham and Arthur Conan Doyle.

mous nature of George IV's marriage to Caroline, beyond one single sentence of a dozen words, which already stands historirecorded. That sentence I was never asked by the Censor to delete.

(2) It contains no love-making between Queen Caroline and her reputed lover. (3) It contains no unpleasant details of Divorce Court character.

(4) It contains no intended application to the present day, beyond an exposition of the unequal treatment which, under the law of this country, is still meted out to women, both in the Divorce Courts and in Parliament.

(5) It contains no attack on religion, on morals, or on the institution of Monarchy. (6) It contains no detailed reference to the character and conduct of George IV, except in one passage of the first act, and throughout the trial scene in the House of Lords, where the words are taken without addition from the published records of the time.

If, as I suppose, that scene is the main cause of my condemnation, I can only imagine that the Censor, and behind his back, the Lord Chamberlain, knew so little of the subject with which they were dealing that they believed all Brougham's speeches to be my own: and, having first adorned me with that resplendent

compliment, therein found justification for the ban which has been laid upon my play.

I have here stated, for the instruction of the misniformed, all such possible points of objection as occur to me which my play does not contain. But — and herein, perhaps, lies the insuperable ground of my offence — it does contain, and deals throughout with, a citation of shorter and situation of shame and agony, for which, without any direct word of reference, the conduct and character of George IV, are shown to be immediately responsible.

I am, Sir, esc, LAURENCE HOUSMAN Kensington, Oct. 1.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Workers may finance care for old

Workers could be obliged to pay into a national fund to finance nursing care for the elderly and to take out a compulsory second pension to provide for their own old age under plans being drawn up by the Government.

Such a move, coupled with greater use of private insurance to replace state benefits, would transform the welfare state beyond all recognition — and legislation could be introduced as early as next year

Minister's minefield photocall

For the image-conscious politician photocalls can be a minefield. Fortunately Clare Short has never been unduly concerned about image. She found her minefield on Brighton beach, where a patch of shingle had been strewn with dud antipersonnel mines and warning signs..... Pages 1, 8, 20

BSE inquiry on way

An inquiry into the origin and handling of the BSE crisis is expected to be launched by the Government soon amid increasing fears that the true magnitude of the disaster has yet to be revealed.

Car evidence

French police scientists have established that paint scrapes found on the wreckage of the Mercedes in which Diana, Princess of Wales died came from a Fiat Uno..... ... Page 1

Thou shalt not steal

After years of trying without success to stop clergymen stealing from his shelves, an antiquarian religious bookseller has at last stumbled on a solution Page 1

Primary schools Standards of reading and maths

in primary schools have failed to improve for a decade and the results of national tests are unreliable, says a reportPage 2

Quarantine plans

Pet owners may be able to return from abroad without having to quarantine their animals under proposals that could take effect by the end of next year Page 4

Disobedient wives

Brides will no longer promise to "love, cherish and obey" their husbands in a new marriage service drawn up for the Church of ... Page 5

Boxer backs off

Emma Brammer, who was due to take part in a boxing match with another 13-year-old, Andrea Prime, withdrew from the contest because of the controversy surrounding the bout Pages 6, 21

£2m landslide hotel A landslide in which a clifftop hotel fell 150ft into the sea four years ago was blamed on the failings of a local council, and the owners won a fight for £2 million

compensation... Snub over VC

Evidence has come to light showing that a New Zealand soldier was unfairly denied a Victoria Cross for bravery during the Second World War.....Page 10

Execution demand

Cuha says he's a highly dangerous mercenary in the pay of Miami terrorists, and when his trial opens today prosecutors have said they will ask that he be executed ...

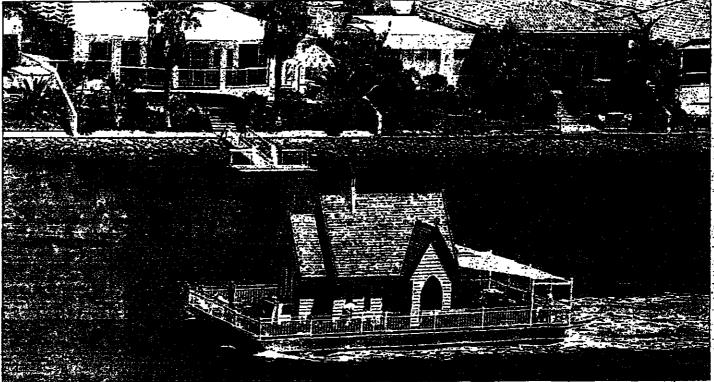
US laser test

America is to go ahead with a plan to test a laser weapon against a satellite in orbit 260 miles above the Earth Page 12 Canada's warning

Canada warned Israel over what it claims may have been the improper use of Canadian passports by Mossad agents who tried to assassinate a Hamas official in Amman. .. Page 13

World's shortest man dies at 36

■ The world's shortest man, who dreamt of marrying a tall actress, has died. Gul Mohammed, 36, at 22.5 inches, was a familiar figure scampering through the fetid alleys of old Delhi, where he spent most of his life amid a dangerous mêlée of bullock carts, rickshaws and crowds who were for ever treading on him



A floating church, Our Lady of the Sea, is towed past Sanctuary Cove to its Southport mooring place in Queensland, Australia

WH Smith: Tim Waterstone vowed to press on with his El billion bid to take over WH Smith, despite receiving a rebuff from the retail group's boardPage 25

British Telecom: The board of MCI, the \$30 billion WorldCom takeover target, was preparing the launch of a rescue operation for the proposed \$24 billion merger with

On-line: MAID, the database company, has agreed a \$420 million cash bid for Knight-Ridder Information..... Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell

21.0 points to close at 5296.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index fellfrom 100.6 to 100.5 after a rise from \$1.6126 to \$1.6161 but a fall from DM2.8633 to DM2.8547 Page 28

Football: Manchester United's satisfaction at a job well done against Juventus was tinged with trepidation when it was disclosed that their captain, Roy Keane, will miss the rest of the season through ...Pages 44, 48

SPORT

super-middleweight champion. broke down as he announced his Golf: Severiano Ballesteros, the victorious Ryder Cup captain, became embroiled in controversy after criti-

Boxing: Steve Collins, the WBO

cising a referee Page 48 Greyhound racing: Some Picture will win a £100,000 bonus and become the first greyhound to hold the sport's Triple Crown if he finishes first in the Irish Derby in Dublin tomorrow night.... Page 46

Sit vac.: What the Arts Council needs, says Richard Morrison, is "someone with the courage to ask why millions of people perceive the

arts as being boring, exclusive, silly

or irrelevant".....

Stoppard's lad: Learning, aesthetics and homosexuality come together at the National in Tom Stoppard's new play about the poet and scholar A.E. Housman Page 17 Classic case: Joe Jackson's chart success in the 1980s with catchy pop ditties concealed a degree in classical composition. Now he has re-

turned to his roots Page 18 Soul sister: David Sinclair reviews the week's albums, from Janet Jackson's sincere The Velvet Rope to Suede's wonderful B-side package, Sci-Fi Lullabies Page 19

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ METRO Romance with strings attached: how Courtney Love was wooed and won by Kint Cabain The second second

PANAGATINE VIII fashion supplement; plus, a list of the richest kids in Britain

John Major: In our second extract from Anthony Seldon's new book Major: A Political Life, he tells how Tory election strategy was de-

Wild and chic: Designers have some funny ideas about women and nowhere are the fantasies wilder than in London, says Grace Bradberry

School lessons: Some independent schools "are not as successful

Fun with food: Four days of cultnary exploration are anticipated in The Times International Festival of Fine Wine and Food, where guests may taste smoked haggis, springbok and alligator, learn about oysters and place themselves ahead of all those leisure cooks watching

television.......Pages 35, 36

Klaus Kinkel [the German Foreign Minister is taking his message of peace for divided countries to Prague. It is no wonder that the greatest advantages still remain with the over-large Czech part of the country compared with its neighbour, which was shrunk dramatically after the division

Suddeutsche Zeitung

Preview: The outrageous comedian gives her spin on the events of the week: Jenny Eclair Squats (Channel 5, 8pm). Review: Matthew Bond prefers aliens to The Locksmith Pages 46, 47

Blind Justice

Justice is blindfold for a reason. Using the criminal justice system to make symbolic genuflection to political causes, however noble, only undermines the effective operation of the rule of law Page 2f Page 2f

Revolt in Rome

In Italy, the unity of the Left and the advance of monetary union appear irreconcilable. This conundrum deserves consideration in London as well as Rome Page 21

Not for girls There are hundreds of different sports to enjoy. Alimost all are better suffed to the female frame and strength than boxing Page 21

MATTHEW PARRIS

It is not easy to be a Conservative in these autumn days of 1997. It is not easy to see sceptical minds minds of writers, minds of thinkers - going down like ninepins before a bogus political idea..... Page 20

JOHN'LLOYD. Fifty men and women, suffering from social exclusion, wrote an open letter to Tony Blair this week. The Government ignored them and steam rollered on to the final victory jigs today...... Page 20

PHILIP HOWARD Of course Tony Banks's joke about the Tories having elected a foetus as their leader and now wishing to abort it is in shocking bad taste. So were his other cracks about abortion. Peter Mandelson featuring as

the Prince of Darkness, and Mich-

ael Portillo as television presenter

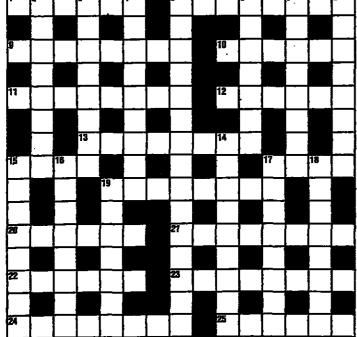
compared to Pol Pot joining the

Teletubbies Page 20 C CENTUALIES

Milner Gray, graphic designer, Professor J. F. Garner, environmental lawyer; Philippe Ros-

University fees: Great Storm and replanting trees; Sensation exhibition; lawyers in schools; trial by jury; marriage annulment; liquid diet; fashion business Page 21

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20.601



- **ACROSS** 1 Rock stick girl tucked into (6).
- 5 Was obliged to eat fish removing head was a nuisance (8). 9 Some lines in the capacity of rail transport (8).
- 10 After work, men wanting to see wine centre (6). 11 Relative was sorry about preten-
- tious behaviour (8). 12 Acknowledgement of hit - note cry of pain held in (6).
- 13 Select as victim to penalise in exam (4,4). 15 A couple of ticks for good book
- 17 Leaders of American pop industry surely revered in Memphis (4). 2 19 More got finished thus (8).
- 20 Extreme North American holds his end to be divine (6). Solution to Puzzle No 20,600

- 21 Twigs are shaken one gets into college before start of storm (8). 22 Row between traders covered up
- 23 Stop being so thick, and succeed around the world (4.4).
- Less hidebound judge, say, has hidden objective (8). 25 Guard read out letter detected (6).
- 2 Where members of school may be seen, all tanked up (8). 3 For instance, War and Peace text gives old general a lift (8).
- Road-hog, for example, always hauled up? Rather! (2.1.6). Fight of the century? (7.5.3). 6 Instrument old sailors found by sacred river (7).
- 7 Began to be spobbish about king 8 Tubby philosopher is on edge. liable to breakdown (8).
- 14 No flies on this bat? (9). 15 Poisoner wasn't slow in appeal hopeful chap (S).
- 16 Let former pupils have equipment, but no kit at first (8). 17 Notice cold sailor heading north round a couple of islands in sea
- 18 Make deduction, accepting port is second rate (3). Concealed so-called nightingale in part of garden (7).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

MISCIED REYNOLOS

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Ad Car reports by fax

HOURS OF DARKNESS

General: Most of England and Wales will be dry with a few clear spalls. But North Wales and northwest England will be more overcast with a risk of light rain. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be fairly mild but bustery with a few showers.

Custery with a lew showers.

London, SE England, E Anglis, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Chennel lates: any early log should disperse to leave a fine, surnry day. A light west or northwest wind. Max 19C (667).

SW England, S Wales: mist and drizzle on coasts and hills, brighter inland. A light our day and Max 18C (647).

N Wales. NW England. Lake District.

☐ N Weles, NW England, Lake District, lake of Man, Contral N England, NE England: dry with sunny spells. A mod-erate west wind. Mex 18C (64F). ☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundes, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Sunny intervals, then

cloudy with rain later. A fresh wast wind Max 18C (64F). Aberdeea, Central Highlands, Moray
Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, Orkney,
Shetland: cloudy with some light rain. A
blustary southwest wind. Max 17C (63F).

blustary southwest wind. Max 17C (63F).

NW Sootland: cloudy with paticity rain, but drier and brighter later. A strong southwest wind. Max 15C (59F).

N Ireland: bright or summy spells in the south and east at first, but mainly cloudy with some chizzle in the north. A fresh west wind. Max 18C (64F).

Republic of Ireland: mostly cloudy with occasional rain. Wind light or moderate westerly. Max 17C (63F).

Outlook: the south will have a dry, bright and fairly warm weekend, apart from Outdoots are bright and fairly warm weekend, apart from the fer southwest. The north will be quite the fer southwest the north with rein on

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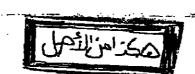
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5. E



INSIDE SECTION



ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky dismisses scares about joining EMU **PAGE 29**



FOCUS

The Times Festival of Fine Wine and Food **PAGE 35, 36**



SPORT

Wonder dog in pursuit of Triple Crown **PAGES 40-48**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES** 46-47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY OCTOBER 3 1997

Scardino turns spotlight on disposal of Lazards



MEDIA EDITOR

MARJORIE SCARDINO, chief executive of Pearson, the media and entertainment group, has identified an eventual split with Lazards, its merchant banking arm, as a strategic goal to make Pearson more focused and raise money for futher invest-ments in the media sector.

When Mrs Scardino took over as chief executive of Pearson, whose interests range from Penguin Books and the Financial Times to Thames Television and Madame Tussauds. she made it clear she was reviewing

would eventually reduce the range of its businesses. In recent weeks Mrs Scardino, a former chief executive of the Economist Group, has made it clear she believed that, in time, a significant group activity should be

City analysts have long called for a narrower focus at Pearson, which has been criticised for its conglomerate feel. Most analysts have assumed that the main target would be Madame Tussauds and Pearson's theme park interests. In fact Mrs Scardino, and the top Pearson management, have become increasingly impressed by the fact that Tussauds

is a unique tourist attraction known all over the world.

In the 18 months there have been major investments, or commitments to invest in all the main Pearson businesses from education and trade books to the Financial Times and television. On Wednesday Pearson announced a \$373 million (£231 million) tender offer for All Amercian Communications, owners and distributors of game shows and serial

dramas. Mrs Scardino has now identified the Lazard interests as a disposal target, although it will be not be an easy thing to do and cannot be

may ultimately prove impossible. Pearson owns 50 per cent of Lazard Partners, a limited partnership registered in Delaware but it also has direct stakes in the operating companies Lazard Frères of Paris and New York

Both Pearson and Lazards have the right to decide to go their own way in particular circumstances, such as a takeover of Pearson. Mrs Scardino will find it difficult to get a top price for Pearson's Lazard interests because there would be essentially only one purchaser - the Lazard

The advantage to Pearson is that last year the company received a preinterests of £40.8 million. The merchant bank absorbs little Pearson management time, requires no capital and relations between the two

David Verey, chairman of Lazard Brothers in London, said last night "Rumours of an imminent divorce

are much exaggerated."

However, Mrs Scardino has se herself the public target of doubling the value of Pearson within five years and Lazards is the only piece of the empire that does not fit her strategic goal of creating a world-class information, media and entertainment



ondon close...... \$333.55 (\$337.45)

MAID secures offer for **US** rival

BY FRASER NELSON

MAID, the database company founded by Dan Wagner, has become one of the world's largest on-line information groups after securing an andacious \$420 million (£261 million) cash bid for Knight-Ridder Information, its US rival

The takeover which has been expected since the two companies entered exclusive negonations last month, was ecured after MAID outbid Reed Elsevier, its UK-listed gival, in a blind auction.

Dan Wagner, who will re-main chief executive of the enlarged group, said that al-though KRI last turned in a half-time loss of £2.79 million both companies will make a profit by the end of next year. He intends to find around £22 million of cost savings each year through shedding 300 jobs across Europe and the US and rehousing all the main information centres into one main database in California.

Mr Wagner, who initially approached KRI with the intention of licensing his company's software searching tool to them. said: The parent com-pany admitted to us it was a bad time to sell, because they had invested a lot, but they needed the money. We have secured a very good price." The two companies are to be

renamed Dialog Group after the merger. MAID shares were suspended at 2150 yesterday. Knight-Ridder, KRI's parent, made the sale to finance its £1 billion acquisition of newspapers from Walt Disney.

Tempus, page 28

Barclays calls staff to BZW meeting

By Jon Ashworth, Michael Clark and Paul Durman

EMPLOYEES of Barclays de Zoete Wedd (BZW), the investment banking arm of Barclays, have been summoned to a meeting this morning, at which it is expected to be announced that the firm is being sold or hived off by way of a joint

Shares in the banking group rocketed yesterday on a report in The Times of an imminent deal concerning BZW, the future of which has been the subject of fevered speculation in recent months. Commerzbank and Credit Suisse First Boston - the latter with offices in Canary Wharf, where BZW is now based - have been tipped as the most likely candidates. Other potential partners in-

clude ING Barings: ABN

Amro and Banque Bruxelles The Barclays share price hit an all-time high of £18 before slipping back to close at £17.47, up 252 p on the day. In a highly unusual move, BZW traders have been summoned to a meeting at 7.30 this morning. Members of staff have been called back from holiday. Martin Taylor, the Barclays chief executive, is due to address the meeting this morning.

Barclays declined to comment last night, saying: "This is market speculation and rumour and we don't comment on that." Speculation about a possible sale of BZW has been fuelled by a disap-



Taylor: early meeting

pointing financial performance by the firm. Barclays has continued to invest in the unit which recently completed a move to its new base in London's Docklands.

BZW has been hit by defections since the arrival last year of Bill Harrison, who joined from Robert Fleming on a package that is worth a reputed £6 million over five years. Patrick O'Sullivan quit as chief operating officer in July to take the helm at Eagle Star, the insurance group. Other defectors include Khalid Rahim, who resigned as managing director of corporate finance in August.

There has been no end to the solutions put forward on BZW's behalf. NatWest Markets, the troubled securities arm of the NatWest banking group, was at one stage put forward as a possible merger candidate, but traditional rivalries between the two made for an improbable match. A flotation of the business has also been put forward as a possible option.

BZW is the least profitable division of Barclays, seeing pre-tax profits slump 29 per cent last year to £204 million. Much of the decline stemmed from a large rise in costs linked to a wave of expensive hirings. These added £45 million to the wages bill. In August, it was disclosed that a £20 million loss in equities derivatives trading had taken its toll of half-year profits at the firm. Operating income fell £24 million to £124 million, prompting a fresh wave of

BZW's reputation suffered a blow earlier this year, when the firm was formally criticised by the Takover Panel over its conduct during the £782 million bid for Northern Electric. Simon de Zoete, the BZW vice chairman who led the Northern defence, was not present at a Panel meeting during which BZW was accused of being selective in its

Commentary, page 27



Waterstone to continue with WH Smith bid

By Sarah Cunningham, retail correspondent

TIM WATERSTONE, founder of the Waterstone's bookstore chain, vowed yesterday to press on with his £1 billion bid to take over WH Smith, despite receiving a rebuff from the retail group's board. It emerged yesterday that

he is flanked in the SBC Warburg-backed bid by Ian Martin, chairman of Unigate. Mr Martin. who is also a veteran of Grand Metropolitan, would be installed as deputy chairman of the WH Smith group and eventually replace Jeremy Hardie as chairman. Mr Waterstone would be chief executive, while all the current WH Smith executives would be given the chance to stav.

Mr Waterstone's advisers were believed to be canvassing shareholder support for his bid. David Manning, of Foreign & Colonial, one of the too eight shareholders, said

that he had not been ap-proached but thought the bid "a bit underwhelming". However, he said that the proposals have put WH Smith "close to being in play" and the management "under a lot more pressure." Smith's

shares ended 16p up at 381 2p. Mr Waterstone declined to say whether he would either take the bid hostile or improve the terms of his propos-

the initial proposal had been

cannot do that and at the

made to test the waters. way his proposals had been presented by WH Smith had been unfair. For example, the group's valuation of Daisy & Tom, his new children's shop venture, at £35 million depends on valuing the new

The new shares would be offered to shareholders along Mr Waterstone said the with 200p for each WH Smith He said that if he succes commany shares at 270p, which he has not done. "They

in his takeover, he would sell much of the group, concen-trating on WH Smith retail. Waterstone's, Daisy and Tom and the news distribution

offering a premium, he said

BT and MCI chiefs aim to save merger

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK



ment and offered no indication

of when they will respond to the biggest takeover bid in corporate history.
MCI shares rose from \$35 to \$36 in New York indicating

the increasing likelihood that MCI shareholders will accept WorldCom's \$41-a-share takeover bid. WorldCom's share price rose 5 per cent. making the bid even more attractive and reducing the risk that a share price collapse would undermine the value of its WorldCom and save his own stock swap offer. £500,000 completion bonus. MCI and BT declined to com-

BT shares also rose in London ending the day up 175p at 4595p. Investors voiced relief that the dilutive deal is likely to fall through. The company is coming under pressure to return funds to shareholders in the form of a buyback or special dividend.

BT and MCI are believed to be considering offering World-Com a large stake in Concert, their joint company, of which Sir Peter would be chief executive. The deal would be complicated, involving a renegotiation of the Concert agreement a second time after the 20 per cent price reduction secured by BT this summer. MCI shareholders would also

get a cash payout to compensate them for losing the more lucrative WorldCom offer.
WorldCom has already told BT it could turn its 20 per cent stake in MCI into a 10 per cent stake in the enlarged World-Com group. Sir Peter is said to view this as unacceptable even though he would get a seat on

the WorldCom board. The MCI directors' bonuses are said to be a key reason for their refusal to accept that WorldCom's offer is likely to win shareholder approval. Documents filed at the Securities and Exchange Commis-

sion show that Bert Roberts, MCI's chairman, will receive \$85 million in cash and shares after Concert's completion. Gerry Taylor, chief executive, will get \$44 million.

Both men have accepted socalled golden handcuffs, keep-ing them with the new company for three years. Their basic salaries will remain at \$1 million and \$700,000 respectively. WorldCorn, however, is not

offering golden handcuffs. Global dream, page 26

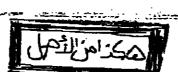
Commentary, page 27

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BT may seek deal to save its global dream

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BT may seek to strike a deal with the company that gazumped its bid for MCI in an effort to

salvage its shattered global ambitions.

One option for BT, whose hopes to merge with MCI seem dashed by WorldCom's surprise bid of \$30 billion (£18.5 billion), is to retain a stake in a new WorldCom/MCI and seek to build up its holding and influence. Such a stance may be difficult, especially after the taunt from WorldCom on Wednesday that, after MCI, it could look at buying BT. However, WorldCom

has offered an olive branch to BT by suggesting a role in a WorldCom/MCI.

BT is not commenting on a prospective role with WorldCom, but the move would satisfy analysts looking for its commitment to a global strategy. BT's terse statement to the Stock Exchange on Wednesday and its refusal to be drawn on WorldCom's surprise move is seen by some observers as a sign that it is keeping its options open. BT told to the exchange: "We have received the material made public today and are considering the issues it raises." BT has held talks with MCI since the bid was

Washington headquarters. Last night Sir Peter Bonfield, the BT chief executive, whose reputation hangs on a successful conclusion to the MCI saga, faced questions over the company's future at the Labour conference in Brighton. where BT held a reception for MPs. He had flown back from the US, where he had met MCI staff on the day WorldCom's bid

disrupted BT's \$24 billion merger with MCI.

Analysts see four options for BT, which has long wanted a transatlantic alliance. The first would see BT keep its 20 per cent of MCI, which would become a 9 per cent WorldCom/MCI stake, and seek to expand its influence.

The second option would see BT casting around for new partners to pursue a global link-up. However, with few suitable candidates, this may not be a powerful strategy. The third would envisage a fresh attempt at a

link with Cable & Wireless, but this is unlikely to win favour with the competition authorities. Lastly, BT could abandon its global hopes and go for the utility option, operating largely in the UK and returning value to shareholders.

Meanwhile, BT is to part company with the man who crafted its "It's good to talk" campaign. Stafford Taylor, its consumer division managing director, will leave at the end of the year.

TV documentary will highlight Treasury discord

By Janet Bush, economics editor

GROWING disquiet about the centralisation of power in the hands of the Chancellor's group of special advisers at the Treasury is likely to be inflamed by a television documentary showing next week.

Tuesday's Scottish Tele-vision film, We Are the Treasury, shows the concern among civil servants about the dominant presence in particu-lar of Ed Balls, Gordon Brown's economic adviser.

Sir Terence Burns, as Permanent Secretary the most senior Treasury civil servant, gives a sense of the culture shock that came with the new

THE first price cap on long-

distance phone calls was launched yesterday by Ca-

ble & Wireless with an offer

for customers to spend as

long as they want on the

C&W is offering the rate

for long-distance calls on Saturdays until the end of

the year. The cap follows a similar marketing move by

New Zealand Telecom.

which lifted the number of

calls by 60 per cent.

phone and pay only 50p.

of doing things. They are not always the same ways that we have . . . ", he says.

Jill Rutter, who subsequently asked to move from her job as head of the Treasury press office, said: "There is a problem with so much being done informally between the Chan-cellor. Ed Balls and Charlie Whelan (Mr Brown's spindoctor) and because so much is filtered through Ed.

The most precious com-modity in the Treasury at the moment is time with Ed and Ed spends a lot of time with the Chancellor. There are a lot of people who need him to

Adrian Chamberlain,

managing director of the consumer division at C&W

Communications, said: "We

have introduced the 50p

price cap so that customers

can enjoy using the phone

and not worry about how

long the call is. Saturday

seemed an ideal day to

choose as people have more

C&W said it provided a

30 minute call for 50p. com-

pared with 98p for BT.

time to relax.

C&W launches first

long-distance price cap

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

mittee, questioned the degree of power enjoyed by the special advisers. "Some of these advisers are suffering from hubris," she said. Ms Abbott was responding to disquiet about the financial market fall-out from last Friday's report in the Financial Times on EMU policy, widely

thought to have been inspired by briefings from the Chancellor's team. She said: With a new government, you have new ministers and also new advisers who haven't learned that careless talk costs lives." The film tracks the dramatic

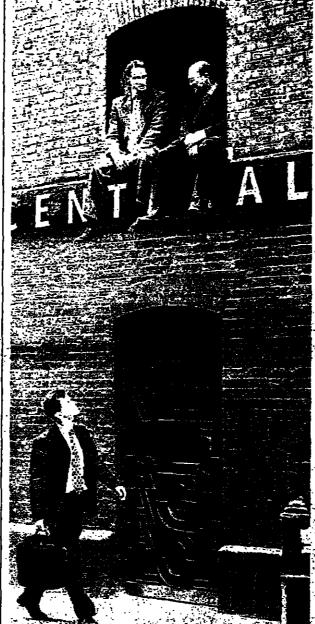
Diane Abbott, the Labour

MP who recently lost her seat

on the Treasury Select Com-

events of the first weeks of Mr Brown's tenure, including the decision to give the Bank control over interest rates and to strip it of its supervisory powers. The latter clearly threw up differences of opinion between the Chancellor's team and Treasury officials.

Sir Terry said that he was nervous about the supervisory decision coming so quickly after the independence an-nouncement and said that he understood the angry reaction of Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England. "It was a very big thing for him and he did not have very much time to think through the implications before the announcement was made. I was not supprised at his reaction," Sir Terry said. ☐ We Are the Treasury: ITV. 10.40pm on October 7.



Higher returns andrew Wil- rose 10 2007 million 184.06. militial and change up to the set of the factor of the set of the Estates sitting left; and Ste or phen Jones, finance director. raised net assets by 11 per cent rises 5 per cent to 0.34p and the shares rose lp to 1622p. to 170p a share. Pre-tax profits

Hyder cuts 350 jobs as operations are united

By Christine Buckley INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

HYDER is to axe 350 jobs, tak ing the total lost in the Welsh multi-utility company to 1.250 since its formation through the merger of Welsh Water and Swalec nearly two years

Hyder expects to make sav-ings of £15 million a year over the next three years by com-bining day-to-day operations in water, gas and electricity.

Managerial jobs may go, as well as administrative posts, as Hyder puts its utility opera-tions under a single manage-ment team. John Roberts, chief executive of Swaler, will bead the utility operation, supported by Milie Brooker, chief edeck tive of Welsh Water.

Hyder said that the streamlining would improve the competitive position of its utili-ty businesses in both regulated and newly liberalised markets. Graham Hawker, group chief executive, said:
"These changes represent a
natural and logical next step
in implementing our strategy.
We have made excellent progress in recent years." Hyder shares rose by 30½ p. to 949p, their highest since the

company's formation. An immediate casualty of the shake up is Stuart Doughty, chief executive of the engineer-ing consultancy business, who left yesterday with no job to go. The position held by the 52-year-old director will not exist in the new structure. Hyder

ance. Mr Doughty was on a one-year, £160,000 contract.

Barclays faces new dispute over pay

BARCLAYS BANK will meet union leaders today to discuss a dispute over a new performance-related pay structure. Earlier this week Unit and Bifu, the unions, received a narrow mandate for strike action after a ballot of the 40,000 Barclays staff they represent. Barclays said the bank was not prepared to reopen negotiations on the fundamental principles behind the new structure.

Walkouts would probably affect Barclays' branches, possibly in the form of two-day or three-day actions. Two months ago the unions held a three-week overtime ban to protest against a new performance-related pay scheme, which they say could impose a pay freeze on 25,000 staff.

Ford pay offer rejected

UNION LEADERS representing 20,000 Ford car workers have rejected an "insulting" pay offer worth 5.5 per cent over the next two years. During talks in London, Ford offered a rise of 2.75 per cent over the next year and another increase of 2.75 per cent the following year. The company also offered minor improvements on pensions. Tony Woodley, of the Transport and General Workers Union, said: "The offer has been firmly rejected." Further talks will be held next month.

Martin back in black

MAKITN INTERNATIONAL, a supplier of clothing to Marks & Spencer and others, has returned to the black at the halfway stage with a pre-tax profit of £395,000 compared with a £453,000 loss this time last year. Earnings were 0.5p (1.8p loss) per share and will all be paid out in an interim dividend of 0.5p (0.45p) on January 2. Michael Kidd, chairman, said there had been a substantial growth in sales to principal customers and that orders for next year were at a high level.

BTR wins \$70m contract

SHARES in BTR fell 7p to 243p yesterday even though BTR said that it had been awarded the contract for both the complete platform-sealing system and the enginemount system for a new General Motors model to be launched in the next century, in a deal worth \$70 million (£43 million). BTR said the contract involved more than one million vehicles a year, which will be manufactured by GM in different locations worldwide.

Polypipe spending £20m

POLYPIPE, the building materials group, said that it expects capital expenditure amounting to £20 million in the current year. Kevin McDonald told shareholders at the annual meeting: "The first quarter has started well and we continue to remain confident of another successful year ahead." He added: "The group's balance sheet remains strong with net cash to enable us to respond quickly to an increase in volume demand." The shares remained unchanged at 215 p.

Streamline lands deals

STREAMLINE HOLDINGS has been awarded two contracts worth just under £1 million to manufacture and supply 62 variable motorway message signs for use on the M40 and Al(M). The first contract is to supply 22 variable road signs for the M40 between junctions la and 3 where Tarmac and John. Laing are widening the motorway. The second is for 40 variable message signs for the Al(M) between Alconbury and Peterborough. The shares were unchanged at 1782p.

▶ REWARDING TIMES <</p>

A FREE portrait worth £50



- Enjoy a lasting memento
- 110 studios available in the UK
- Ideal gift for your family or friends

This week The Times offers you the chance to have 1 a FREE professional sitting and portrait worth £50. The offer, in association with the Click Group of photographic studios, gives you and your family a large professional print of your favourite shot taken at the sitting in a choice of black and

white, sepia or colour. You can have a portrait of a single family member, of you and your partner, or the whole family. You can also take up the offer and give it to friends as a gift. The offer is available for sittings before January 1, 1998.

There are 110 studios throughout the UK in the Click Group. each with its own highly-regarded professional portrait photographer who must qualify to become a member of the group. Established only four years ago, the Click Group has already established a reputation for quality portraits and now has a waiting list of 120 studios wishing to join.

HOW TO APPLY

By Phone: Call 0990 334 000 for your nearest Click Group studio. Lines are open 24 hours a day. Take four differently numbered tokens and the application form to your sitting to validate your free portrait. Appointments must be

> made by October 25, 1997. By Post: Send the completed application form to: The Times Portrait Offer, The Click Group, Click House, California Lane, Bushey Heath, Herts WD2 IEZ before October 18, 1997. You will be contacted before October 25 to arrange your sitting. Another application form will be published tomorrow.

A £15 fully refundable booking deposit will be requested at the time of booking. Cancellations must be made within 24 hours of your sitting. No cash alternative for this

offer is available.

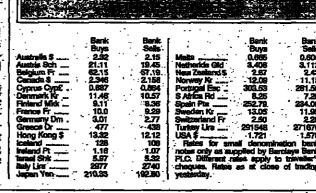


Boeing's jet shake-un

futher development of the MD80/90 narrow-bodied jets made by McDonnell Douglas, the US aircraft group it merged with earlier this year

(Adam Jones writes). Boeing is likely to announce the fate of McDonnell Douglas's full range of commercia jets around November I. The single-aisle MD80/90s com-

vice president, said they wer not competitive. He said: "Fur necessarily mean that existing models will no longer



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LEGAL PUBLIC, COMPANY & PAKLIAMENTÁRY NOTICES

The intricacies of advance corporation tax and for-

eign income dividends can

bring on a migraine for the most

clued up finance director so it is not entirely surprising if a novice Government finds itself a touch

befuddled by such fiscal niceties.

But the reforming regime that came to power in May did not allow an apparent lack of clarity on the subject to prevent it from advocating change. In his first Budget, the Chancellor an-nounced that he intended to abolish the foreign income dividend scheme.

He cannot have imagined the indignant response that would ensue. Major companies such as Rio Tinto and SmithKline Beecham amounced that they would have no choice but to pack their bags and leave their UK bases, taking their London stock exchange listings with them.

has been at pains to emphasise its business friendly credentials and has been rewarded with a reception unpredictably enthusiastic for a Labour administration. It would hardly wish to jeopardise that happy situation jeopardise that happy situation by precipitating an exodus of big the statute books.

So what had been announced as firm policy was avaidly are.

A streamlining of corporation tax would meet with wide approv-

as firm policy was rapidly watered down into a period of consultation. Now, rather more enlightened on the subject of FIDS and ACT, it seems that the Government may have come to

An advance on the tax front

the indupitably sensible idea of

sweeping away the lot.
This is the sort of modernising of which we should all approve. even Ken Livingstone. The British. corporate tax system has been geared to producing ample employment for accountants rather than merely filling the public coffers in the most straight-forward manner. Abolishing ad-vance corporation tax effectively rules out the need for special treatment for foreign income divi-dends and would therefore be enough to appeare those companies which earn much of their income overseas who were so upset by the Budget bombshell.

Their protests were not . The City has convinced itself wasted. The new Government that rumours of the move are true and that the proposals will be made in Gordon Brown's green Budget next month. The joy of a green Budget is that, unlike his last effort, there will be ample time for consultation before initiatives

al, and the cost of abolishing ACT could be largely recompensed by demanding quarterly payment of corporation tax. This could place an extra administrative burdén on

COMMENTARY by our City Editor

for quarterly reporting of results, as is the norm in the United States.

There would, as ever, be some companies that stand to gain more than others from the changes. Smaller firms would tend to dominate the losers. And, in a delicious twist to the tale, the privatised water companies would be able to count themselves winners, a suitable quid pro quo for the windfall tax.

Hanging on for the regulators

he competition authorities have only to take a look at the \$30 billion price tag-being attached to WorldCom's bid for MCI to know that this is one with which the regulators can have a field day. Never mind that they may eventually decide that there is sufficient competition in the telecoms market

accompanied by a requirement for them to allow the deal to proceed, in the meantime they have the power to put the whole idea on hold for anything up to a

> This is the prospect which must be causing some agony ior BT's board. For there is nothing more difficult for a business to contend with than uncertainty. The official line from BT is that it is weighing up its options, but those options now depend very heavily on the US regulators. And while the regulators ponder, much could happen, including a heavy deterioration in the value of WorldCom's offer.
> To say that WorldCom stock is

highly rated is to fall to do justice to the fervour which Bernard Ebbers has succeeded in generat-ing around his shares. He has excited Wall Street into valuing his shares at 40 times earnings, the sort of level that might be accorded to a bio-tech stock which could strike a fortunemaking discovery — or could vanish into the netherworld inhabited by a raft of such companies which were built on

hope. WorldCom has progressed beyond hope to acquire a profits stream, but only just. Adding MCI to its voracious list of takeovers would make sense, bringing synergy and cost sav-ings not available to BT. But, with the prospect of being beaten by WorldCom in the equation, BT's share price has already strength-ened, adding to the value of its offer. It is not impossible that, as the regulators plough through their inquiries the two offers could

come more in line.
That would give BT more leverage should it want to retain an involvement in Concert, its existing link with MCL What is not yet clear is what would be BT's preferred solution to the tangle that has emerged in the US. The instant reaction of the City was that it should take the speediest

given the enthusiasm Sir Peter Bonfield had for the link, this

may not be his choice. If he were still keen on joining forces with MCI, he could do worse that indulge in a little spindoctoring against the sky high WorldCom price. Throw in fears over the regulatory hurdles ahead, and the game may not be

Blood still flowing at United Utilities

alk of yet more heads rolling in United Utilities is a worrying sign that Sir Desmond Pitcher still wields the cosh, in spite of a sword hanging over his own head.

The hasty exit of John Tetlow. the company secretary, has been attributed to health grounds. But insiders, surprised at the quick departure, believe that Sir Desmond has exerted his influence again. Mr Tetlow, it is thought, worked too closely with Brian Staples, the axed chief executive, for his own survival.

Blood-spilling is endemic at United Utilities. It was the sacking of Mr Staples that quickened the institutional calls for an end to Sir Desmond. Investors, uneasy at the autocratic style of a man who had already seen off one chief executive, demanded that Sir Desmond gave up the reins of executive chairman earlier than his planned retirement date of 2000.

United Utilities staff may hope that the date is brought forward early enough to guard against

further axe wielding.

All is expected to be revealed in the next few weeks after the completion of a review into the business and the search by headhunters for a new chairman. Advisers say that a shortlist

is emerging.

No doubt the recruitment consultants will have placed diplomacy and delegation high on their list of requirements. For whoever succeeds Sir Desmond, when he chooses to go, will need to do much repairing of morale at the multi-utility in the North

Bank notes

INVESTMENT banking needs big pockets and brave hearts. Martin Taylor's decision that Barclays could not play the game alone only serves to highlight the difficulties facing another British high street bank that thought it could join the big league. Pressure on NatWest can only increase as a result of today's news. Selling off bits and pieces will not be enough to assuage the critics who believe that NatWest should leave investment banking well alone.

United lifts mis-selling cover by £79m

for clearing its pensions mis-selling backlog to £150 million in a desperate attempt to meet the deadlines set by the Per-:

With just four weeks to go before its deadline for completing priority cases, George Mack, group chief executive, said only half of the 3,300 people involved had been offered compensation. He said United had a mountain to climb" to meet the PIA: state pension: target but would be working. ... United also said it was setting

from the PIA if it misses the : ed £37 million in annual cost deadline. This week the regulator imposed a £450,000 penalty on Friends Provident for failing to meet a similar deadline in March. Any delay will also threaten a second PIA deadline at the end of April.

Mr Mack blamed United's lack of progress on the difficulty of getting information from clients as well as state and occupational pension funds. He said the £79 million increase in provisions, which includes an

UNITED ASSURANCE has exceptional charge of £68.4 more than doubled provisions million to shareholders, would be used to fund guaranteed schemes and make unconditional offers of reinstatement.

Guaranteed-type schemes sonal Investment Authority. have been offered by a number of insurers as a short cut to completing the pensions re-view. With these schemes companies promise policyholders will not suffer financially even if they are not reinstated in a company or

hard to do so. up a new management services savings from the EL46 billion merger between United Friendly and Refuge last year. It also revealed the sale of its lossmaking Financial Planning arm to Friends Provident. Pretax profits on continuing activities, before exceptionals, in the first half of the year leapt to £158 million (£86 million). There is an interim dividend of 7p, up 30 per cent, and a final payment for the year of 14p (126p) is

Scottish Telecoms 'float' talk

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

SPECULATION that Scottish-Power could float off its telecoms division, Scottish-Telecom, was reignited yesterday when the company briefed City analysts on prospects for

ScottishPower compared its telecoms arm with a range of similar businesses, including Energis, the National Grid's operation, which is to be floated. It is thought that ScottishTelecom could be worth £700 million as an

independent entity.
The operation, which broke even in the last financial year, will make £4 million profit this year, according to Rod Matthews, its chief executive. This is based on sales of £110 million, which have more than doubled from ES4 million the previous year. Mr Matthews told analysts that Scottish Telecom, launched three years ago, was aiming for 10 per cent of Scotland's 62 billion telecoms market by 2000, double its current share.

T&N silent on £1.23bn Federal bid

By George Sivell

A BOARD meeting at T&N the car components group, broke up yesterday with no word on how the directors viewed the £1.23 billion bid from Federal-Mogul of Michigan launched last Friday. No announcement is immi

nent. Sir Colin Hope, T&N chairman, and the board are talking to Federal-Mogui, whose bid team remains in London, and other companies who expressed an interest in T&N during the summer. Analysts believe that Feder-

al-Mogul is in pole position, however, because of the detailed talks already held with T&N during July. But it would appear that the four big shareholders that control more than 50 per cent of T&N are holding. out for much higher terms than Federal-Mogul's 235p a share indicated offer.

Yesterday T&N shares rose 3p to 249 p against the 270p or so at which the big four would appear to begin to think about accepting:

English & Overseas puts £5.6m into Oriel shares that will give control to

ENGLISH & Overseas Properties (E&OP), the property investment minnow, is branching out into hotels by investing 5.5.6 million in Oriel Leisure. an independent hotel management company (Dominic

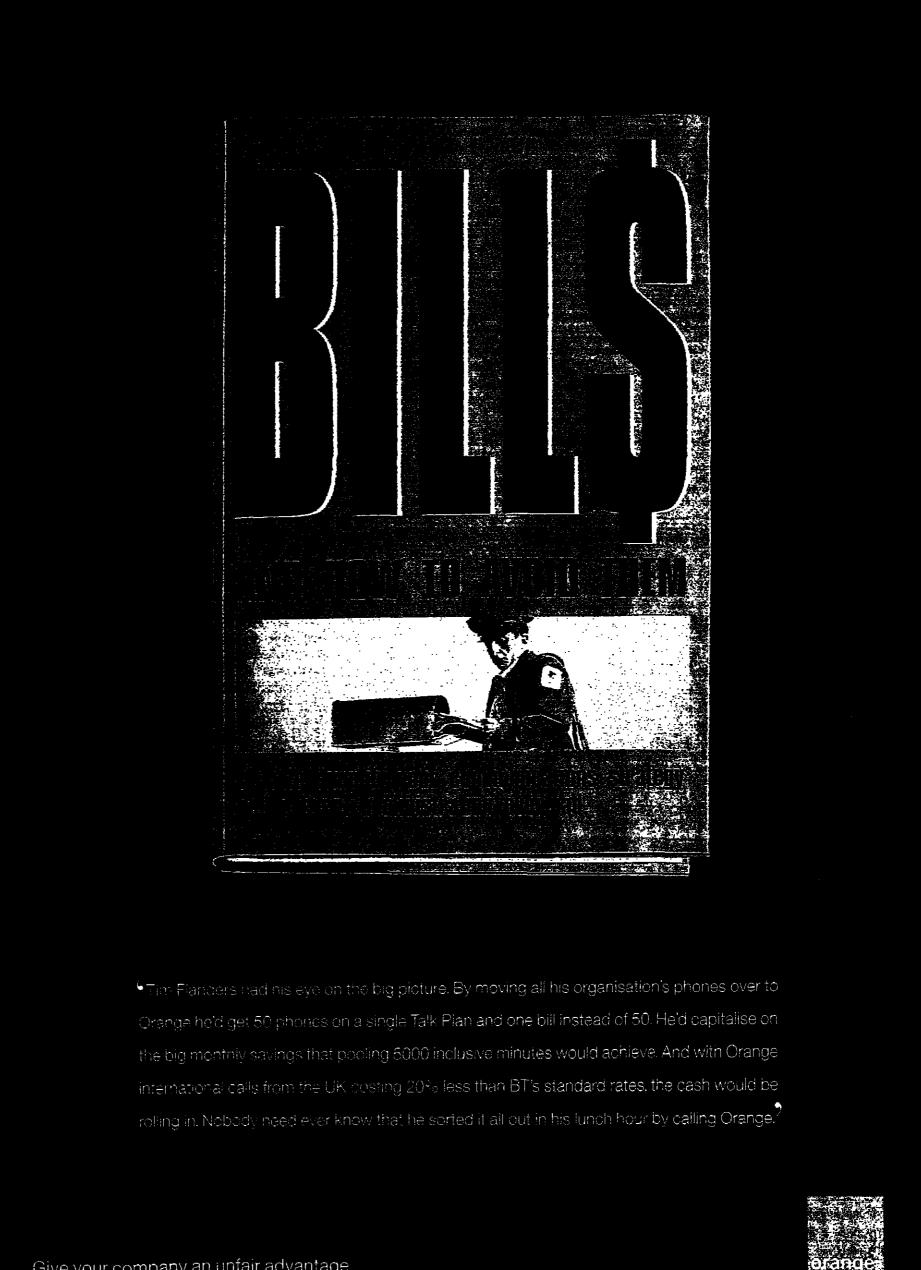
Walsh writes). Oriel, founded in 1991 to run distressed hotel assets for banks and receivers, will use the money to start development of a chain of budget Holiday Inn Express hotels under a franchise deal with Bass. E&OP's investment will take

the form of a mix of ordinary

E&OP on conversion. Jim Clark, E&OP's chief executive. said that its "ideal scenario" would be a floration of Oriel in four to five years time On top of the 556 million. Tito Tettamanti, chairman of

E&OP and a former Holiday lnn franchisee, has personally committed £4.5 million. With bank borrowings. Oriel expects to be able to assemble a war chest of £25 million

Oriel has contracted to develop between 15 and 20 hotels, mostly alongside pubs. convertible preference at about £3.5 million each.



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Barclays rides high on BZW deal speculation

A MEETING of all BZW staff has been called for 730am today at which they have been told to expect an announcebank arm of Bardays. A number of BZW staff have been recalled from holiday.

There was no stopping Barclays Bank, with the price briefly touching an all-time high of E18 before reducing its lead to 25'2p at £17.47. Once again there has been talk that Barclays may be close to unloading its BZW investment banking arm or joint venturing it with a major partner.

Word in the City suggests that the buyer or partner is either Commerzbank, the German banking group, or Credit American-Swiss bank. Earlier in the week ING, the Dutch bank, which bailed out Barings after heavy losses on the futures market in the Far East, was being tipped as a potential suitor. Other buyers mentioned in the past included ABN Amro and Banque Bruxelles Lambert.

NatWest Bank, which is thought to be looking for a buyer for its own investment banking arm, also rose, by 3312p to 986p. The other banks closed mixed after another strong performance this week. Bank of Scotland rose lop to 52212p, but there were setbacks for HSBC, off 39p to E22.0212, Abbey National, down 13p to 963p. Lloyds TSB, 30p lower at 82012p, Standard Chartered, 10p lighter at 83612p, and Royal Bank of Scotland, down 24p to 67212p.

Newcomer Northern Rock continued to make headway with a rise of 13p at 476p.

Share prices generally continued to test new ground in early trading, supported by another positive performance overnight on Wall Street.

Suggestions that the Government was set to scrap advanced corporation tax (ACT) breathed fresh life into leading shares and pushed the FTSE 100 index to another all-time high of 5,367.3. That was the signal for the profit-takers York opening a touch easier last night, dealers in London saw those early gains reversed. The index finished 21.0 down at 5,296 l. having kept up a cracking pace for much of the week. By contrast the FTSE 250 index, which has been travelling at a far more sedate pace, closed 21.9 higher



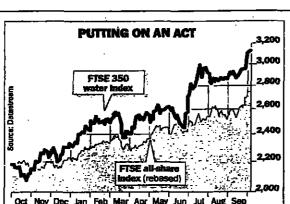
Dan Wagner, of Maid, left, and Jeff Galt, of Knight-Ridder

at 4.861.3. Total turnover was 900 million shares.

Leading shares expected to benefit from the scrapping of ACT were pushed to the fore in early trading. Among those expected to benefit from lower tax bills are Reuters, up 2512p at 753p, Unigate, 1012p better at 58112p, and BAT Indus-

tries, 13p dearer at 56712p. British Telecom rose 1712p to 45912p as it continued to ponder the surprise \$30 billion counterbid for MCI from WorldCom. Institutional investors are looking forward to the prospect of BT returning capital to shareholders in special dividends or share buybacks. A further 50 million shares changed hands.

Traders were puzzled by the sudden fall in Glaxo Wellcome, down 28¹2p at E13.71, after briefly hitting



THE water companies were marked higher with brokers expecting them to he big beneficiaries of any corporation tax.

Anglian Water rose 72p 102p to 9012p, Thames ities 132p to 780p and Yorkshire 10p to 4912p. Nigel Hawkins at

Yamaichi, the broker, said: "Such a move would be bullish for the whole water sector. But the benefits are likely to be short term because Ian Byatt, the intake the tax benefits into account when the next round of pricing falls due in March 2000.

pointed out that South West last year made paid tax of £14 million, of which ACT made up £9 million. Without the high level of capital allowances the tax burden would have

been nearer £44 million. "If they do abolish ACT the overall tax wedge becomes smaller. But I would expect the regulator to take this into account during the next round of price rises," Mr Hawkins said.

		ader com- ne it hits
£14. the	sellers	suddenly
materialis	e".	

It has been quite a week for troubled WH Smith. First, it rejected a cheeky bid from Tim Waterstone, founder of its own Waterstone's book chain, and then yesterday it became the subject of a rare "buy" recom-mendation from ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker. The shares ended at 38112p, still way below the its peak of 483p for the year.

Asda slipped another 314p to 15414p after admitting that merger talks with rival Safeway, 11p lower at 382p, also a dull market yesterday,

losing 612p to 45112p.

Shares of Maid, the online information service group. were suspended at 215p after confirming plans to buy Knight-Ridder Information for £260 million. The shares will remain frozen until the deal is approved by shareholders next month. The deal, put together by Dan Wagner, chief executive of Maid, and Jeff Galt, president of Knight-Information, make Maid the world's biggest supplier of online information. The shares are

expected to return at around

the 325p level. After struggling for two years on AIM to find its feet, things are looking up for Euro Sales Finance. The price jumped 20p to 175p, stretching the two-week lead to 50p. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Prices closed off their best levels as the profit-takers moved in, capitalising on this week's rally. Dealers said that longer dated yields were continuing to fall, faced with mounting speculation about the timing of British entry into a single

In the futures pit, the De-cember series of the long gilt touched £1205a, matching its all-time high, before retreat ing to end the day £316 better at £1201932. The total number of contracts completed reached 100,000.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on nine ticks at £116²³32, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was unchanged at £103²¹32. ☐ NEW YORK: Blue chips remained weaker and drift-ing, due partly to the Jewish new year and the wait for September's payroll figures out today. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 9.08 ahead at 8.024.58.

German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest 298067

New York (midday): 9-8024.58 (+9.08) . 958.00 (+2.59)

MAJOR INDICES

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Hong Kong Amsterdam: Sydney:

Frankfurt:

Singapore Brussels: Paris: Zurich:

FT 30 FTSE 100 .. 2539.6 (-6.0 Z761.92 (+43.76 PTSE Non Financials 2472.76 (-3.01)

German Mark 2,8547 (-0,0086 Exchange Index 100.5 (-0 Bank of England official close (4pm)

RECENT ISSUES

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Aram Resources	102	
Bristol & West Prf	1184	+
Cammeli Laird	1555	
Computerland UK	146	٠.
GR Holdings	525	٠.
Helicon Pubsig	915	
15 Solutions	1365	+
Kingfisher Leisure	185	
Northern Rock	476	+, 1
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RIGHTS ISSUES

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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

er was that United will be a

powerful force in the dull but

still large market for "home

service" insurance, more or

less abandoned by the likes

attempt to move upmarket

with the financial planning

business it bought from

American Express in 1993

was an ignominious failure.

Before it was sold, this ran

Information overload

ALTHOUGH Dan Wagner seems to claim another "killer deal" for Maid every other month, it is hard to ignore the significance of the latest move by his online information company. By pulling off an audacious bid for the much larger Knight Ridder Information. the 34-year-old has once again won a standing ovation from his growing fan club in the City. and will soon be sitting on top of a £300 million company.

But at what cost? To become a global player agreed to take on £170 million of debt and will pay £16 million a year for the privilege. For a developing company, this is a courageous

A glance at KRI's figures gives clues to why the likes of Reuters and Reed did not feel so tempted. KRI's profits have been steadily

falling for the past four years, and it is now incurring a loss. Yet Mr Wagner remains convinced he has snapped up a bargain. He plans to create one almighty database to serve all 200,000 customers, merge overseas offices, sack surplus staff and hey presto produce £22 million of annual cost savings.

nore scarc It is true that Maid is in a fast-moving industry where it is impossible to ger to the top without taking risks. Nonetheless, his hunger for KRI's "content" — its exclusive data sources - raises important questions about Maid's strategy and the validity of its past

Mr Wagner's admirers believe that the deal will prove its worth from as early as next year. When Maid's shares return from suspension, they look set to move ahead smartly. Wiser heads will stand aside from the rush.

up a final loss of £11.9

million, after £13.7 million

A merger of the group's

two life funds could give

United excess capital to give

back to shareholders next

year. In the meantime, the

shares' main attraction is

dividends forecast to rise to

21p this year — a vield of

more than 5 per cent.

UNITED IN LIMBO

Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep

United Assur.

A year on from the merger of United Friendly and Refuge Assurance, the integration work drags on. The need to of Prudential. United's own form a management com-pany to allow policyholders to share in the merger savings has complicated the process, but United's management is also struggling to clear up its part in the personal pension mis-selling scandal. The total provision for this mess has now more than doubled to £150 million.

United still has to close another 165 branches and to weed out another L300 from its sales fieldforce. On past experience, the disruption and likely damage to morale will hold back sales. Recen new business figures showed the company is already missing out on the revival in the life insurance market.

The rationale for the merg-

Clubhaus

EUROPE'S victory in the Ryder Cup last weekend can only be good news for Clubhaus as it seeks to consolidate as one of Europe's leading golf course

Since its demerger from Ex-Lands last year, the company has expanded rapidly, adding another seven clubs in the first half. The economies of scale are starting to show through in improved margins on lood and bever-

Unfortunately, Clubhaus's deals have not always been a model of clarity. This is partly because of the demerger and the interesting cast of characters involved, including a German baron and IMG's Mark McCormack. However, it does give pause for thought.

Yesterday's acquisition of Germany's Nippenburg Golf Club is a case in point.

ing company. Its managing director talked vaguely of paying "a nominal sum", and ossed over details such as the DM6 million of debts in the operating subsidiary and the 75 per cent interest owned jointly by Mr McCormack's MG and PGA European

Tour Courses. Clubhaus has sensible plans to add health and leisure facilities to several of the company's 15 golf clubs possibly drawing on the experfise of David Lloyd, who

is a non-executive director. opaque approach would help build confidence

Hyder

HYDER'S fortunes have improved considerably since the company found itself ham-

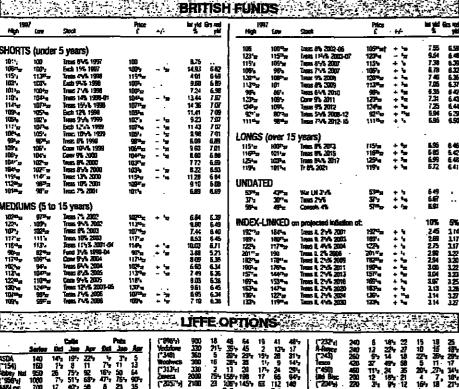
mered by the windfall tax. Yesterday the company had double reason to feel cheery: the prospect of an end

to advance corporation tax further cost savings from the continuing fusion of its two main businesses.

Hyder is delivering an extra £15 million a year savings by combining the management of its water, electricity and gas businesses and merging their day to day operations. It is an efficiency over and above what it had expected to deliver and could signal further rationalisation.

The company's short-termprospects are encouraging and the management has businesses and exposure to nascent competitive markets such as electricity and gas

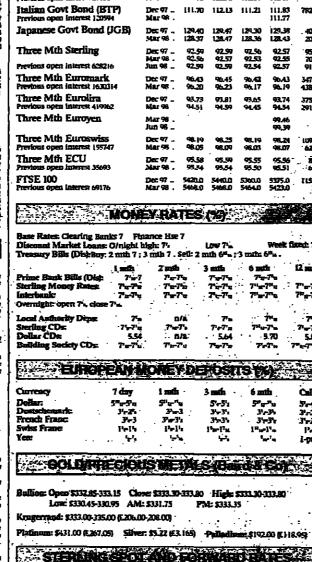
Dividend prospects for water utilities such as Hyder remain good, justifying in-vestors hanging on to the



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Con Union 1,700 Scot & New 1,800	Comper (20)
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Energy Gp 785 Shell Trans 16,200	Corning Inc 4 Cwide Credit 3 Crestor Pint 4 Crown Cork 4
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Industri

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supply where margins are ex-pected to be tight.



Ignore scare stories about Britain joining EMU early

Blair will want to win the next election before risking a

single currency referendum

The pound is now back to exactly where it was last Thursday, before the dramatic prediction in the Financial Times that Tony Blair was about to announce a referendum on Britain joining the European monetary union. This is understandable, since the story raised more questions than it answered. Here, then, are some answers to the ten questions that seem most important to me.

l) Assuming EMU goes ahead in 1999, will Britain join? Not in 1999, but probably after 2002 if the single currency survives that long. But this is hardly news. Even the Tory Eurosceptics never demanded a permanent guarantee against EMU membership. "Never say never" is a sloganthat almost all politicians un-

derstand and accept. 2) What, then, has changed as a result of last week's story? The Government, according to the story, is moving towards a decision to join EMU well before 2002. In order to do this Tony Blair would have to call a referendum before the next general election. According to some political commentators. close to Gordon Brown, Labour sees attractions in calling a referendum as early as possible, to capitalise on its present popularity with the voters and to give the Prime Minister a free hand to join EMU whenever he sees fit. Is the story about early EMU membership and a ref erendum credible?

No. There are numerous economic arguments against joining early - for example, the wide divergence between the British and German business cycles — but the clinching objection is political. For Tony Blair the risks of a referendum seem much too high. Nobody can guarantee that Mr Blair's record personal popularity would be translated into support for the Government on EMU. The obstacle is not so much that public opinion at present runs against the euro. Voters' opinions on EMU are generally believed to be "soft". and open to persuasion by both sides in this argument. The Euro-enthusiasts believe this justifies the risk of a referendum, but the softness of public opinion on Europe can cut both ways. In 1992, President Mitterrand was confident of overwhelming support for his snap referendum on the Maastricht treaty: in fact the "petit out" ended up as a majority of 50.3 to 49.7. But even if Mr Blair thought he had a 70 per cent chance of winning, he would not want to risk a referendum, since the consequence of defeat would

IS THE POUND TOO HIGH OR TOO LOW? Exchange rates against the pound Exchange rates adjusted for changes in unit labour costs. January 1, 1979= 100

be catastrophic, while the rewards of victory would be small or even negative (see auestion 51 4) Why is a referendum so

risky? Mr Blair's authority would be shattered if he gratuitously called and then lost a referendum on an issue that the Opposition and the media would turn (quite rightly) into a vote of confidence on the Prime Minister's constitutional and economic judgment. Mr Blair would become a lame duck as surely as President Chirac has in France. 5) But wouldn't an early referendum split the Tories, leaving Mr Blair with nothing to fear, whether he won or

On the contrary. A referendum on early membership of EMU is the event most likely to unite all wings of the Conservative Party. Kenneth Clarke would probably have no hesitation in campaigning about a decision to join EMU on any specific date such as January 2000. He would argue that, while he supported the single currency in principle, the Government had missed the chance of becom-

ing a founder member and had not done enough to bring the British and German economies into line. And if Mr Blair called a referendum demanding an open mandate to join EMU at a time of his own choosing? The Tories would find it even easier to unite in attacking him for demanding a blank cheque. To defeat the Government in a referendum would transform the Tories morale and their standing in the country. It might even give Mr Clarke a chance to re-enter Tory politics without betraying his pro-European views. Mr Blair must also consider the risks of victory. By leading Britain into early membership of EMU, Mr Blair would put himself in the same position as John Major in 1990, bearing per-sonal responsibility for all the consequences of all economic decisions made in Frankfurt, over which he woudl have little influence and no control. 6) What, then, is the alternative to an early referendum if

the Government eventually wants to join EMU? Instead of calling a referendum, Mr Blair could make membership of EMU after

2002 a plank of his manifesto in the next general election. The Tories would not be able to unite in opposition to such a manifesto commitment, since many in principle believe that such decisions should be taken in elections, rather than referendums. Alternatively, Mr Blair could call a referendum immediately after the next general election. If he won the election, he would be likely to win the referendum. Anyway. he would by then be on course to achieve his over-riding political ambition — to be the first Labour Prime Minister to serve two full terms.

Won't these arguments gainst a referendum collapse 1 1999, once the British péople see EMU up and

Not at all. Although EMU will formally commence on January 1, 1999, nothing visible will actually happen. It will certainly be impossible to claim that EMU had succeeded (or failed) until several years after the starting date. Europe will certainly not erect trade barriers against British exporters

My advice would be to ignore stories about EMU and judge sterling, gilts and equities on their fundamental values. And what do these fundamentals suggest? I only promised to answer ten questions.

an investor?

and banks will not leave the City of London in the early stages of EMU — especially if

hard-headed Scottish financier. Waterstone is the man who left the entire takings from the first day's trade of his first bookshop, £924 in all, on the Circle Line. An unlikely couple, but good friends, it

could never persuade the Americans to part with cash to back his projects, in particular a break-up bid for GrandMet, I hear. He had quit the latter with £556,000 after losing out in the battle for the top job. Martin is chairman of Unigate but has always wanted to get to that top job at GrandMet. You and 1, on walking out on our employer with half a million quid in the bank, might not be in a hurry

MARTIN WALLER



Terence Conran is taking

Waterstone vision of a books market for middle-brow readers

hen WH Smith an-nounced the com-pany had rejected a surprise bid by Tim Waterstone, observers assumed he was after control of Waterstone's, the bookshop chain that he founded and then sold to WH Smith. There was some amazement when it turned out that the

Britain will join after another

general election around 2002. If anything, the first few years of EMU are actually likely to

see a greater concentration of

activity in London's financial

markets, as small financial centres such as Milan, Ma-

drid and Amsterdam close

8) All these are tactical argu-

ments about timing, so why should anyone care? Surely it

makes no difference whether

Britain joins in 2002, 2000 or

In the very long run this may be true. But timing is crucial for three reasons. First, it is

possible (though unlikely) that

the next election could produce

a government with a funda-

mentally different British poli-

cy towards EMU. Secondly

and more plausibly, EMU might "fail" or at least cause

serious economic and political

tensions in its early years.

Britain's gains from remain-

ing outside the potential finan-cial and political turbulence

would almost certainly out-

weigh its loss of influence over

decisions on the implementation of EMU, nearly all of

which have already been made or will be made in the

months immediately before

Finally, the question of tim-

ing will have a major influence

on financial and economic

conditions in Britain today. If

Britain decided to join EMU,

it would have to join the

European exchange-rate

mechanism (ERM) and an-

nounce a target exchange rate

the figure most often men-tion is DM2.65 to the pound.

The economic impact of such

an announcement would de-

pend entirely on the length of

the run-up to EMU, as dis-

cussed in the next question.

9) Wouldn't British industry

eain from a more competitive

exchange rate if Britain an-

nounced it would join EMU

The first point to note is that

no country has ever joined the

ERM (never mind a perma-

nent monetary union) at an

exchange rate so far from its

current market level (which is

DM2861. Even supposing that

this breach of etiquette (also

known as "competitive devalu-

ation") were permitted, it is not

would go down or up. If Mr Blair said he planned to join

EMU at DM2.65 in 2000, the

present difference between

British and German interest

rates might mean the pound

falling slightly from its present

level (to about DM2.82). But if

Britain joined EMU at DM2.65 in 2002, the pound could actually rise above

DM3, since the present differ-

ential between German and

British interest rates would

compensate investors for a

devaluation of more than 10

10) What then should I do as

per cent over five years.

whether the pound

January 1999.

bid was for the whole group. "I can't bear to watch the decline of Smith's retail," he said yesterday. "It had no like-for-like growth last year. It is an extraordinary story of

His idea for the WH Smith high street shops, which he has been mulling over since the beginning of this year, is to bring in a lot of the ideas behind the Waterstone's bookshops and behind his new venture, the Daisy and Tom children's shop in the King's Road.

Mr Waterstone wants to fill at least 50 per cent of the space with books, with about four times as many books in stock as are currently held by the business. But, unlike Waterstones, the books on the shelves would be mainly middle-brow.

"I'd have every title ever written by Catherine Cookson and every one every written by Joanna Trollope. he said."I'd have minor authors and lots of books on gardening, reference books. children's books, lots of things that Waterstone's doesn't really do," he said.

The model for the look would be Daisy and Tom's children's book department. It would be a lot softer and more elegant than WH Smith is now," he said. "It is a subtle

from the shops, but stationery, which he likes for its high margins, would be built up. "I'd do it incomparably better. The range is not great enough now. I'd make it an Aladdin's cave," he said.

build up is news and magazines. "Instead of contracting the ranges. I'd do the reverse. I'd stock every foreign and The WHS bid

of a personal crusade,

Cunningham

and motivated.

He speaks with infectious enthusiasm and clearly has a strong vision for how the underperforming shops could be changed. To most analysts, the ideas sound appealing but appallingly expensive. This is something he refutes: "Everyone says that Waterstone's didn't make money at the beginning, but it always made money at branch level," he counters. "We just ploughed all the money back into opening

thing."
Video and music would go

The other area he wants to

has the feel

says Sarah

said. Stealing another idea from Waterstone's, which he always insisted should only employ graduates, the staff of WH Smith would also be much more highly trained

new branches." The whole basis of Mr Waterstone's plan is that he would get same-store sales growth at WH Smith up to about 5 per cent. The Waterstone's chain has much better growth than that, and he feels it does not need changes

made to the way it is run.



WH Smith) is wonderful. All it needs is a great wodge of capex (capital expenditure) to build up the size of the

One part of the proposal that has caused some scepti-cism among WH Smith shareholders is his insistence that Daisv and Tom be brought into the main group. He says that the sum of £35 million WH Smith has put on this is unfair, but he firmly believes in the business and insists it would be a core part of the group. He is also keen to keep Smith's news distribution business, but he does not like its book distribution side and is keen to unload its large music business. It would probably be easy to sell Virgin Our Price to Virgin, but the American music businesses could prove

mith's main shareholders were curious yester-day to hear about Mr Waterstone's plans for the group, but highly sceptical about the finances. There is some suspicion that Tim Waterstone is either planning to come back with an improved offer or is just trying to get his hands back on his bookshops. The deal as it looks now just doesn't quite stack up," David Manning, of Foreign and Colonial, said.

Another shareholder said that Mr Waterstone has proved himself to be "clearly very successful in a very focused environment", but was less sure how he would cope with looking after a whole group. John Richards, retail analyst at NatWest Markets, believes that whatever Mr Waterstone's record and vision may be, shareholders want money rather

than bits of paper".
"Tim Waterstone," he said. "has a lot of creative retail ideas, but is not very conscious of the bottom line". It is not the best reference for the job of chief executive of WH Smith, although no one doubts that for too long creative retail ideas have

BUSINESS LETTER

Shareholders should vote on executive remuneration

From the Managing Director

Sir, It is a matter of concern to me as an adviser on executive remuneration that Hampel's proposals will reduce transparency and help hide the topic of executive remuneration from shareholders. This retrograde proposal will allow the few companies, who are so in-clined, to abuse the system.

I disagree with Hampel and have for some time felt a vote on executive remuneration was both practical and highly desirable. If such voting was introduced,

shareholders would always give their support to well designed and effectively communicated executive remuneration policies.

It is only those poorly designed and communicated policies that would encounter shareholder hostility, and

At the moment, shareholder concerns can only be expressed either through the back door or through voting against the re-election of a director. This might be regarded as slightly extreme. Attending shareholders should be allowed to vote in favour of the directors, but at that the package is, say, too

Therefore, the suggestion by the NAPF that the remuneration committee's report should be a voting matter at AGMs should receive the wholehearted support from both remuneration committees and shareholders.

Yours faithfully, DAVID M W BROOKS. Managing Director. Performance Consulting. Richmond upon Thames.

Fee fi fo fum

WARNINGS that last year would be the high-water mark for City fees and it would be bread and dripping under new Labour were ill-founded. because this year looks like setting another record: Philip Healey, editor of Acquisitions Monthly, expects fees to hit £1.2 billion. The number of deals in the first nine months. is up, but their actual value was £7.4 billion lower at £35.2 billion. Yet the fees keep rising. This suggests the City is charging more for less work, and getting away with



it, does it not? Healey says it is all too reminiscent of the boom of the late 1980s. "It's becoming quite crazy. But if you are involved in it, it seems quite normal." In terms of value of deals done, at present the Americans are ahead, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley at first and third place, bracketing Schroders.

CHARMING but empty. the Lake District. Which must explain the competition that runs in The Westmorland Gazette, heading for the stock market as part of Newsquest. Rather than a Spot the Ball feature, the paper prints a pic-ture of a field of sheep. "Look carefully at the position of the sheep and then use your skill and judgment to place a cross at the exact point where you think the dog's nose was." The competition is called Spot the Dog. Spot. Spot. loveable Spot, he's soft and cuddly and he smiles a lot ...

Odd couple

STRANGE, the sudden emergence of Ian Marim into the WH Smith arena as Tim Waterstone's partner. He is a



Martin previously ran a British fund for KKR but

indeed different. ☐ GREAT excitement in adiand over news that Maurice Saatchi, himself the own-

er of a Bentley, would be peddling Rolls-Royces, a product that I always assumed sold itself — I mean, you hardly stand outside the showroom agonising between a Roller or a Ford Orion, do you? The story was shifted down a couple of gears by an embarrassedsounding Vickers, which owns the luxury car brand. Yes, there has been contact with M&C Saatchi over raising the value of used Rollers in the US. Nothing so vulgar as an ad campaign. And don't, please, say used. The phrase is previously owned".

Paris match

TERENCE CONRAN is opening a new restaurant. In Paris. (I mean Sir Terence, of course, except that Terry, as we metropolitan sophisticates call him. now omits any mention of his title in conversation or correspondence). He has found a site, and it will open at the end of next year. A long time to build a brasserie, surely?

is known to have a bit of a

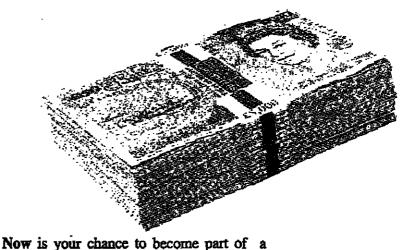
*Let me tell you how a restaurant works," says Conran, and I recall, suddenly, that he

to walk back. But the rich are short fuse. "You find the space, in the location that you are interested in. You have to go through all the planning permission, fire safety and so on. Gradually you start to make decisions about the kind of food you are going to serve and the price level." So the venue has as yet no name, no chef and no menu. Conran believes French restaurants are in the doldrums. If so, he has an opportunity to put this right next spring. He has been invited across to Paris to lecture on the subject. The invitation came from Paul Bocuse the grandest fromage in French chefdom.



on the French at their own gastronomic game

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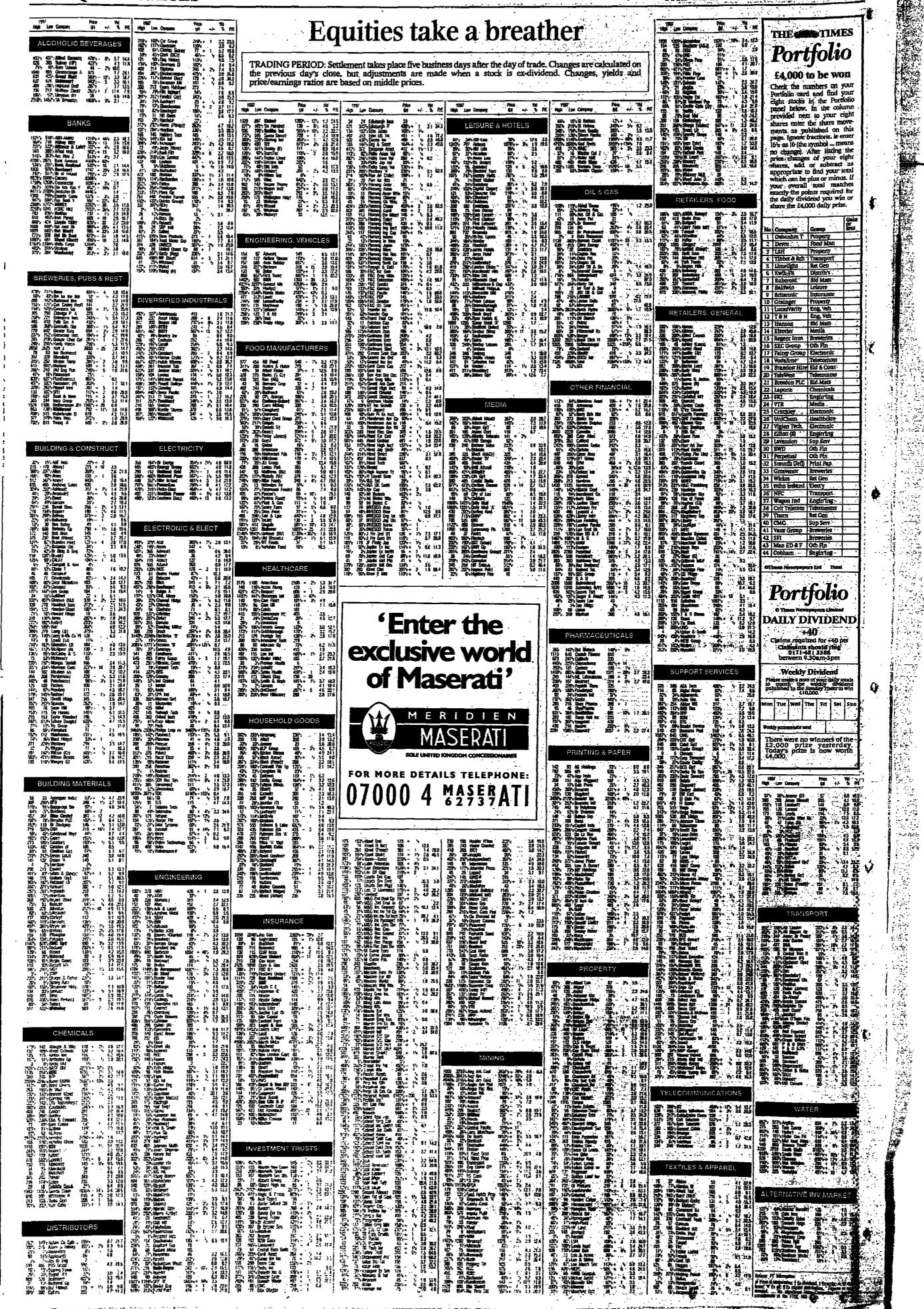


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Unilever to sell coffee business

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and consumer products group, has put its Australian and New Zealand coffee business, worth A\$90 million (£4)

million), up for sale.

The divisions are being sold as a single unit to concentrate on ice cream and tea operations. The divisions, which are profitable, came as part of the Bushells acquisition made nearly ten years ago, and they employ 231 people in Australia and 43 in New Zealand.

The brands being sold include Robert Timms. Pablo and Faggs and will be sold as a going concern.

B&R wins

Shell Expro, a joint venture between Royal/ Dutch Shell and Exton, has awarded a £20 million contract to Brown and Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton, the US energy and engineering group, to serve Shell's offshore installations. The five-year contract covers the management and operations at the Altens operation and Torry Marine bases in Aberdeen.

Buying back

Care First, the healthcare group, is to buy back up to 8.44 million shares, or 5 per cent. They may be purchased at a maximum price of not more than 5 per cent above the average middle market quotation for the five business days before the deal is done.

R-R contract

Reyrolle Projects, Rolls-Royce's Malaysian joint venture, has won a £15 million contract to build two new substations and extend two others in the Malaysian state of Sabah.

Tool deal

Vibroplant has bought Domindo Tool Hire from Rentokil Initial for -ELI unillion cash.

Large firms 'worst for delaying payments'

By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

deadlines,

On very late payment, 9.5 per cent of small businesses

pay more than a month after they should have done. For

large businesses the figure is

8.1 per cent and for medium-

sized companies the rate is 4.2

per cent.

The best payers are in financial services, in which some 31.6 per cent of companies

settle accounts on time. The

worst performers are manu-

facturers, with a prompt pay-

ment rate of only 14 per cent.

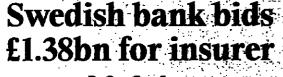
FEWER than two out of ten UK companies pay their bills on time and large businesses are the worst offenders for slow payment.

Figures from a Dun & Bradstreet survey of more than 86,600 companies showing that 81.7 per cent of business runs up overdue accounts, come as the Government closes its Green Paper consultations on late payment today. Fewer than 10 per cent of large companies pay bills within pre-arranged terms. and among large manufactur-ers, only 6.6 per cent make prompt payment, according to

the study.
Philip Mellor, senior analyst at Dun & Bradstreet, said: With oxily two out of ten businesses paying their bills on time, we feel that these figures fully support our case for legislation in favour of a statutory right to interest on late payment. It is clear that have been introduced over the past ten years have had no effect on changing the business culture."

The Government has set out plans to "end the culture of late payment" as well as plans to enable small companies to claim interest payment penal-ties from those that do not pay on time. Legislation is expected next summer.

But the plans laid out in the Green Paper launched by Barbara Roche, the Industry Minister with responsibility for small business, have been roundly criticised by business, groups such as the Confederation of British Industry and the Institute of Directors. They claim that a statutory right to interest will not reverse the practice of poor payment and will not help the cashflow of



Banken, the Swedish bank. bid 16.8 billion Swedish crowns (£1.38 billion) for Trygg-Hansa, the insurance

company, yesterday. -SE-banken bid 244 Swedish crowns a share and made an accept the share offer alternative bid of 13 A shares The two companies estim

SKANDINAVISKA Enskilda one of 27 per cent over the last ten days of trading.

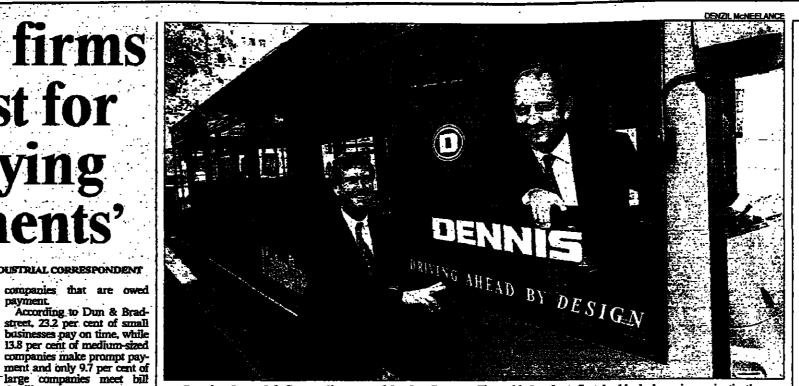
The directors of Trygg Foundation, the largest single of the shares and 39.4 per cent of the votes, have agreed to

the two commanies estimate that the takeover will make every five Trygg Hansa possible annual synergy gains shares. The cash offer of the order of 775 million amounts to a premian of 30° Swedish crowns at the control of the order of the or

THE TIMES

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Brendon Geary, left, finance director, and Stephen Burton will provide London's first double-deckers since privatisation

Trinity wins £12m bus order

TRINITY HOLDINGS, the maker and exporter of specialised vehicles, has won a £12 million order for doubledecker London buses from Stagecoach, the transport group (Fraser Nelson writes). The 100 Dennis Dart

Trinity made more than 1,000 buses and fire engines in the six months to July 31, helping its interim pre-tax profits to rise to £9.13 million, from £8.06 million. Earnings vehicles will be the first new per share rose to 10.8p (9.7p),

tion of its bus services.

for the capital since privatisa-Trinity spent £500,000 re-structuring its assembly plant at Warwick, absorbing all charges in the first half. A £3.7 million extension of its Guildford plant, increasing capacity by 25 per cent, is due for com-

name itself Dennis Group. Stephen Burton, chief executive, said the UK bus market is 20 per cent bigger than last year, adding £25 million to Trinity's order book, offsetting problems posed by sterling's strength. The shares rose 6 ap to 302 ap.

Energy group to raise £12m

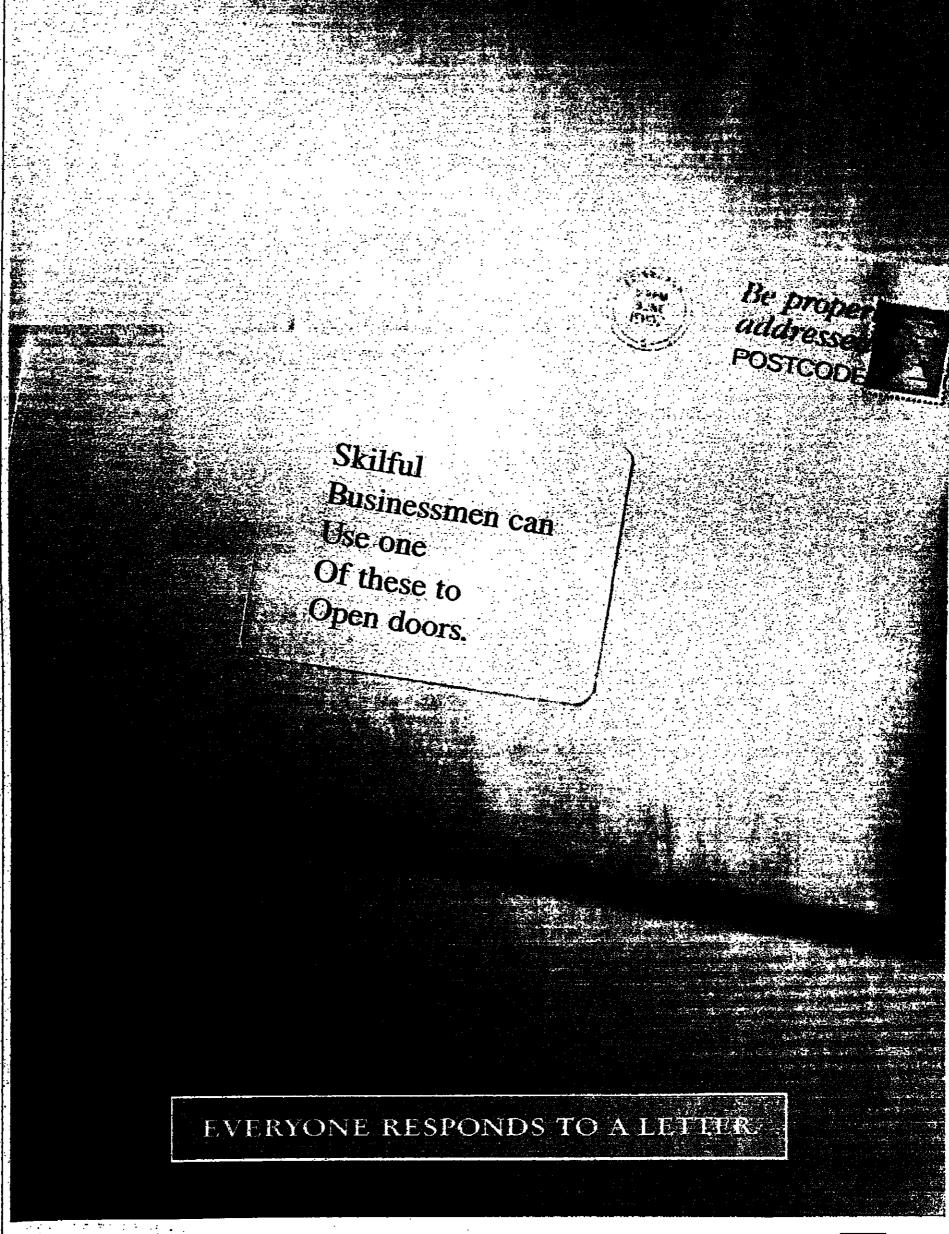
By George Sivell

INTERNATIONAL Energy Group, which has oper-ations in the Channel Islands, Portugal, the Isle of Man and Britain, is to raise £12.38 million in a placing and a one-for-four

The company will use the proceeds to finance capital expenditure for the development of its British natural gas business.

The company said that trading for the current year is in line with expectations, with the costs associated with the development of the British natural gas business offset by profits arising from non-core property sales. It added that the development of its UK natural gas business is "accelerating at a faster rate than

initially expected". In the six months to June 30, pre-tax profits rose 35 per cent, to £5.18 million, on sales of £42.6 million (£38.8 million). Earnings per share rose from 5.61p to 7.68p. The interim dividend rises from 1.16p to





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Reuters to expand customer base through the Internet

MEDIA EDITOR

REUTERS, the international information and news agency group, plans to counter any possible threat from online services by using Internet technology to reach a wider

. The group has launched a range of new products including Reuters Investor, a system that will allow private investors to get information for their own personal investments through bank websites. Amro in Netherlands and Direkt Anla-

SHEFFIELD UNITED and

owners, both paid heavy fi-

get their teams into the Pre-

share price more than halve to

532p since it floated, yesterday revealed that its pre-tax

profits of £59,000 had turned into losses of £5.9 million in

the year to June 30. Turnover

was £5.1 million, up 8 per cent

Loftus Road, which i

chaired by Chris Wright and

combines Queens Park Rang-

ers and Wasps, the rugby

club, made a £7.1 million pre-

tax loss in its first year as a

public company. Its share

price has also dived, from a

high of 1062p in January to

the shares had been over-

priced at more than 100p.

What people must remember

is that 78 per cent of our share

price is supported by our business assets, and we have

Sheffield's losses per share

Loftus Road yesterday said

it had appointed Stephen

Oakley as its new chief execu-

tive, and that Clive Berlin and

Geoff Huckstep, heads of

OPR and Wasps repectively,

☐ Silver Shield, the replace-

ment windscreens supplier

that recently bought Swansea

City Football Club, has ap-

pointed Peter Day as chief

executive of its sports and

would stand down.

grew from 0.5lp to 20.08p.

while Loftus Road's loss

pany will pay a dividend.

virtually no debt."

from £4.8 million.

Hypo Bank in Germany, have already begun offering the service to their customers on a Reuters-operated public website. Private investors can also use the subscription service to deal in shares. Twelve further pilot trials are now running within institutions in six other European countries, including six British banks.

Jean-Claude Marchand, Reuters president for Europe, the Middle East and Africa said the company, noted for its sophisticated dealing systems for a relatively small number of market professionals, hoped to apply internet tech-

Football clubs drift offside

with heavy full-year losses

branches in Europe with a need to service customers with timely and accessible information," Mr Marchand said. Reuters estimates the number of active private investors in Europe will rise from about 600,000 now to around two

million by the year 2001.

Reuters will charge banks between \$15 (£9) and \$20 a month per user, depending on content, but the banks may charge a lower price or none at all for their best private invesfor customers.

Reuters Markets Monitor and

historic information for use on bank intranets - or private inwell as private investors.

Monitor, which will have realaround \$200 per user per month. The Markets View, based more on historic information, will cost around \$40. More Reuters Internet and intranet products were on the way.

The core of the Reuters usiness, which had £2.9 billion revenue and £701 million profit in 1996, will continue to be the 400,000 screens in

to banks and corporations as

Simon Thomson, Reuters marketing director for Europe. Middle East and Africa, said: What we are now doing is launching products that take us off the trading floor to reach areas we have not been able to reach in the past."

Mr Marchand said he did

not see any threat to Reuters from the public Internet because people will continue to want the high quality information that only organ-isations such as Reuters could

Accounts affair still dogs Burn

BURN STEWART Distillers, the Scotch whisky producer, continues to suffer a hangover from last year's accounting problems. Its shares, trading at around 94p before the matter came to light, fell another 2½p to 44p yesterday in spite of a sharp jump in the company's annual profits.

The accounting change inisted on by Price Waterhouse, the company's auditor, forced Burn Stewart to exclude £5.1 million of revenue and £2.3 million of profit from last year's figures. Although much of that has now been recovered, there is a £775,000 provision. Bill Thornton, chairman, admitted yesterday: This has quite badly damaged our

At the time of the debacle, it was suggested that Price Waterhouse would probably be dumped, but Ian Bankier. managing director, said that shareholders had decided that the firm should be retained. He admitted, however, that the relationship remained

The inclusion of the excluded revenue pushed annual £70 million, while the inclusion of £1.4 million of profit helped pre-tax profits to rise from £1.01 million to £3.56

Mr Thornton said that although there was evidence of higher prices, profits remained under pressure and gross margins had remained static at 24.5 per cent.

Earnings per share rose from 2.94p to 3.32p. A final dividend of 1.7p makes an unchanged year's total of 3.4p.



hair, pointy ears and accent floating somewhere be-tween Moscow and Miami,

he is a million light-years from Hector the tax inspector, the bowler-hatted figure that the Inland Revenue uses to promote self-assess ment. However, he is in charge of the £1.6 billion contract for data processing that the Revenue handed to EDS, the US information technology giant. The ten-year deal is at critical point. Originally it

was worth only £1 billion, on the basis of declining payments to EDS as it saved more and more money for the Revenue. However, the contract was controversially upped to £1.6 billion when EDS persuaded the Revemue to let it take charge of back-office operations for

Some eight million selfinvolved, and EDS has had the project at any one time, and, according to Kreymer, has delivered all systems early - including a huge data warehouse that lets tax inspectors browse through tax forms to pick up cheats and an intranet system to link the dozens of tax offices and thousands of inspectors.

thriller, you could do

worse than base him on Alex

Kreymer. With his cropped

If that were not enough pressure for Kreymer and his team, the National Audit Office is to publish a report on the EDS contract this month. Awarded when Conservative privatisation was at its zenith, the deal included the transfer of 2,300 Revenue technical staff, along with their offices in Telford. Woking and Bas-ingstoke. This was a model for "outsourcing" that the Tories planned for big areas of the public sector, notably through the Change programme that sought to privatise much of the Depart-

ment of Social Security. When the Labour Party came to power, all bets were off. In opposition, Labour had been a stern critic of EDS and had roasted the firm at a session of the Commons Public Accounts Committee.

However, as in many areas, Labour has changed its attitude as power has become a reality. EDS has recently won a share of the contract for ticketing on London Transport, work to computerise an element of air traffic control and part of a DSS consultancy agree-ment. It is confident of

Jason Nissé

for public sector

Alex Kreymer sent a chocolate and a note to welcome "transitioned" recruits

The God Dome

team shows way

looks at EDS, the American data company aiding Hector the inspector

winning more business —

but there is a problem. Faced by poor financial results in the US, the headquarters in Plano, Texas (known as the "God Dome" to EDS insiders) demanded 10 per cent cut in the headcount across the board. Kreymer has tried to insulate the Revenue team from much of this - though the DSS operation is facing up to 200 job cuts with the closure of the Swindon processing centre that EDS took over in a similar outsourcing deal. However, up to a quarter of the 2,300 Revenue staff put into EDS projects. Not all have left EDS. Doug Topple, who had been 36 years with the Revenue, spent a year on EDS's logistics operation for

The days of making employees shave off their beards have gone

the Royal Navy and now heads an EDS team running Royal Bank of Scotland. Others are working in Canada, Australia and Derby. where EDS has a big project with Rolls-Royce.

Many of the staff had been with the Revenue for decades. Alan Bell, who is now in charge of community affairs for the whole of EDS in the UK, began working as a tax inspector in Bradford in 1965. Liz Hume, EDS's human resources manager, had been with the Revenue in Glasgow. London and Telford for 26 years. "! didn't want to move," she admits. "Then I became resigned to it, then I started to accept it and then I began to look forward to it."

The switch came in two tranches — the first in June 1994, and the second 18 months later. Revenue

working side by side with colleagues who had transferred to EDS. Many found the process frustrating, with those in the second tranche often feeling left behind. When the two sides came together. Kreymer sent each member of staff a chocolate with a note saying: "Wel-come to EDS. Tranche one and tranche two are united

The process of bringing 2,300 staff into EDS is nothing new. Ever since General Motors bought the group from Ross Perot in the 1980s, EDS has become expert at "transitioning" people into the organisation.

The company is evangeli-"transitioning", wanting new employees not only to join it, but to love it and accept its philosophy. However, the days of making employees shave off their beards (a Perot obsession) have gone, as Paul Ballard. head of technical strategy project, testifies. He had a beard and floral boots. Ballard tends to turn up in a business suit, but still likes to wear the boots occasionally to surprise people.

Joining EDS was not as much of an adverse cultural change as many of the Revenue staff had feared. Years of cost-cutting in the Civil Service had left many of them demotivated and concerned about their career opportunities. "In the Revenue, we were considered to be somewhere off at the side," says Sukhi Gill, a software specialist who was once a tax inspector in Bradford. "If you were a technical expert, there was a glass ceiling to promotion. But being in a technology company means there are lots of opportunities that I wouldn't have had otherwise."

EDS says that the project going well, but is reluctant to divulge any figures. Technology consultancies are not averse to bearing a loss on a government project in order to win more work - as Andersen Consulting showed when it lost millions on computerising National Insurance records, How good a deal it is for the Revenue will emerge this month, but Nick Montagu, the Revenue's new chair-man, has said that he is happy with EDS's work so far. The NAO report will be keenly read by ministers. It may set out the future for the running of many of Britain's



Chris Wright, chairman of Loftus Road, saw the company make losses in its first year

Property experts fear 2000 'bomb'

By Susan Emmett

likely to have millennium-

Savills, said: "Buildings that

do not have a millennium

certification not only risk dis-

ruption in January 2000, but

could already be moving to-

terms of market value."

James Marland, director of

compliant controls...

THE millermium timebomb, which threatens to cause chaos for computer systems, will also affect buildings and may lower their market value, according to Savills, the property consultant. Offices, shopping centres

and factories may be disrupted on January 1, 2000, if they have systems controlled by electronic chips, Savills said. It says that security cameras, fire alarms, lifts, escalators, air-conditioning and heating systems and back-up systems such as generators may stop working, in the worst-case scenario, if they rely on time switches.

Most vulnerable are premises built in the last property

Owners put up cash to save tin mine

THE Canadian owners of Britain's last tin mine have provided a cash injection in an attempt to help the fight

The South Crofty mine near Redruth. Comwall, is due to close within the next few months because of mounting financial losses caused by a drop in the price of tin on the international market

wards a disadvantage in Almost 40 workers have The potential cost in terms of lost business is also signifialready been laid off from the total workforce of 270 but cant, experts say. It is estimatminers are hoping to pered that, for a medium-size suade the Government to agree a rescue package.

The Crew Group, which office in the City, the loss on

one day's disruption may be owns South Crofty, has proabout £100,000. A single day vided an undisclosed amount of lost production across the of cash to help to keep the UK could amount to as much mine working, David as £1.4 billion. One UK company has al-Giddings, managing director, ready put aside more than said yesterday. £600,000 to tackle the problem.

Clubhaus buys German golf club

CLUBHAUS, the golf dub operator demerged from Ex-Lands last year, yesterday added the Nippenburg Golf Club in Stuttgart, designed by Ryder Cup hero Bernhard Langer, to its rapidly expanding portfolio.

The company is paying a nominal sum to acquire a 75 per cent stake in the club's holding company and will take over management control of a course that has hosted the last three German Open championships.

News of the deal came as Clubhaus reported a near doubling of pre-tax profits to £1.4 million in the first half of 1997, on turnover up from £3.1 million to £7 million. During that period it splashed out

around £25 million buying seven new clubs, taking its total to 15, and Charlie Parker, managing director, said it continued to seek further acquisitions, principally in the South East and in Germany.

In the first six months of the year some 155,000 rounds of golf were played on Clubhaus courses, and membership now stands at more than 10,000. Sterling's strength against other European currencies

produced an adverse foreign exchange movement on re-serves of £3.4 million, and reduced operating profits by £42,000. Earnings per share rose from 0.93p to 2p, but there is no interim dividend.

Tempus, page 28



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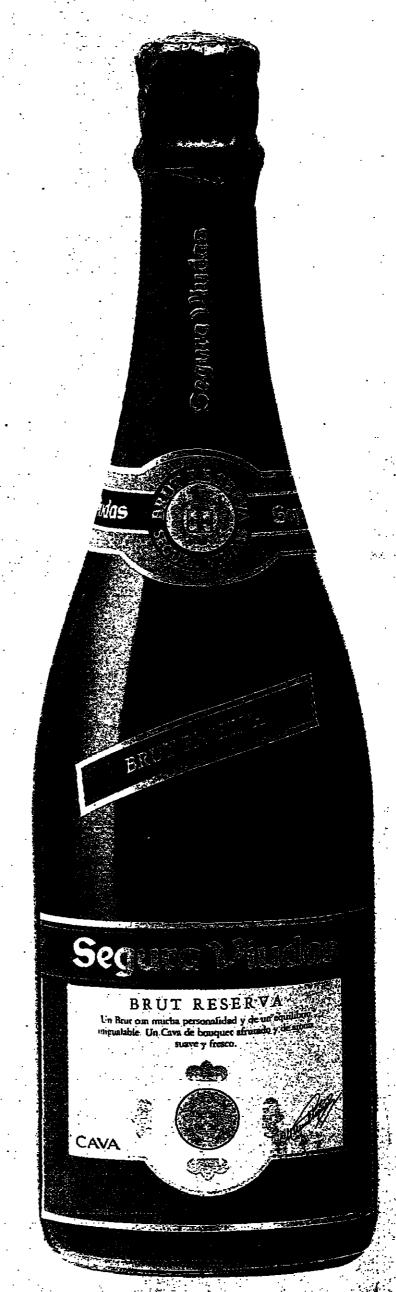
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Heredad Brut Reserva "SPARKLING WINE OF THE YEAR" INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE Wine Magazine

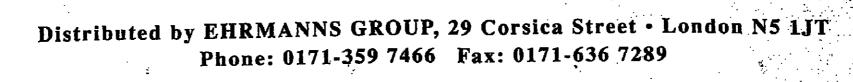
INTERNATIONAL

SPARKLING WINE OF THE YEAR



Wine Spectator USA

Brut Reserva "TOP SCORING SPARKLING WINES



INTERNATIONAL FINE WINE & FOOD

Robin Young introduces a special report on four days of culinary exploration and adventure

ood is fast becoming Britain's favourite spectator sport. Where it was once considered a chore, associated with household drudgery, cookery has now become the fastest growing component of the leisure industry. Food is

That is why more television hours are now devoted to cooks and chefs than to footballers or cricketers. Cookbooks, also, are right up there with gardening manuals as staples of the publishing industry, and the time is fast approaching when the British will eat out more often than they do at home.

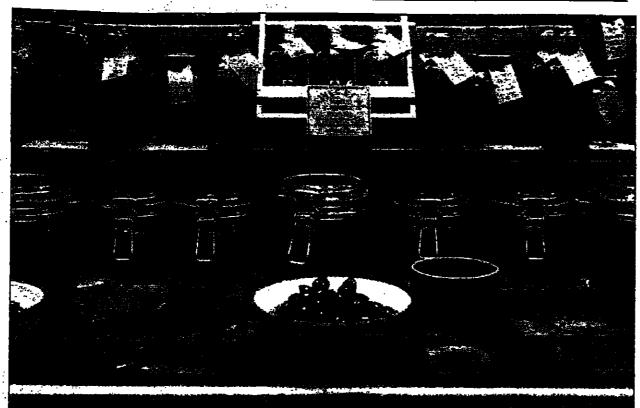
So while fewer and fewer people actually cook meals for themselves, and spend less and less time about it when they do succumb, the fascination with new-langled means of readying food for consumption, at home, in a pub, club, bar or restaurant, or simply on the hoof has become an almost insatiable appetite.

At the International Festival of Fine Wine and Food which begins at Olympia next Thursday there will be something for everybody. You want to degustate over the difference between native and rock oysters? Both will be there. You always wanted to know how Greeks keep their teeth while demolishing copious quanti-ties of halva and baklava? Ask at the Greek delicacies stall.

You always wondered how different the ham from an acom-fed pig might be? Hurry along to snatch a sliver of Iberian black leg Jabugo, proof that it is not only great oaks that grow from little

How about this one? Traditional hickory-smoked salmon from Scotland. No honestly, that is what it says right here in the press release. You never heard of the tradition of hickory-smoking Scottish salmon?-Neither did I, but at this exhibition obviously even the traditions are new.

And as for smoking food, nothing is safe. They have smoked haggises, alligators, ostriches and springboks for your delectation. "Never tried before," the press release enthusiastically claims about the creams impreganted with half smoked haggis. Don't they a cupboard full of spices. realise that the haggis dates The point is that these from Neanderthal times and shindles realistics from You Scottish brochs and in medieval halls absolutely every-



Olives were prominently featured last year at the festival, so don't forget to pick up your extra virgin olive oil

From alligator to radioactive iguana

thing was smoked - including drink, or even derive their the haggises?

I hesitate to comment on Iguana radioactive hot sauces from Costa Rica". You want your sauces radioactive, that's your business, but excuse me while I retire behind my solid lead bib, as provided by dentists when taking X-rays. You cannot be too careful

when picking your way around a modern food show. booby-trapped as it is likely to be with temptations such as chocolate dipped prunes, exotic mushrooms with weird names and possibly mind-expanding potential, or ice

principal pleasure from it. Why, these events can even be useful! Would I know how to cook scallops without turning them into a passable

imitation of ice hockey pucks

had I not seen Bruno Loubet

lucidly explaining and demon-

strating the art at just such an How would I have found non-stick saucepans that actually do not stick, had I not met persuasive salesman at Olympia? Would I have known of the existence of fruitflavoured teas, or ever have developed a habit of nibbling chocolate-covered coffee beans

It would be folly to pretend encounter at such a show. Some of them (multi-flavoured

if I had not been to previous

potato crisps, packeted pizzas, most ready-mixed sauces) are, to my fastidious mind, quite appalling. But at least I am fully abreast of what is out there, and what other people may be enjoying.

o this year, for example, visitors to the International Festival of Fine Wine and Food will become the first to be able to sample the New Covent Garden Soup Company's new range of fresh baked bean products — including what should be a very flavoursome baked bean casserole made with Great Northern haricot beans, molasses, Dijon mustard and garlic; a spicy version pepped up with dry Ancho compilation of terranean canelinni and flageolet beans

with tomato and fresh tuna: and a mix of Puy lentils, adulci and mung beans with olives, pimentoes, caper and thyme.

This is one range being launched at the festival which is already assured a national release (from October 10 in major supermarkets and leading grocers around the country at prices from £1.49 a carton), but there are plenty of other novelties on show which will be much less widely available.

The festival is your opportunity to ferret through all the latest innovations, to sort out the brilliant from the duff, and to put yourself ahead of all those leisure cooks sitting at home watching chefs on television. Food may have become half the fun if you do not get stuck in and participate.

Britain becomes a big cheese

1970s, British cheese was sliced from rectangular blocks. If the block was orange, it was Leicester, if chalky. Wensleydale: and if white with blue lines, Stilton. The rest was Cheddar. Not until the mid-1980s did wedges of crusty farm-

house wheels and soft goats' and ewes' milk cheeses invade fridges. Thanks to struggling farm cheese-makers and a bunch of enthusiasts, the British cheese renaissance began and last night the winners of the fourth annual British cheese awards, sponsored by Tesco, were announced.

Seasonal fluctuations in temperature and humidity can alter a cheese's texture. flavour and acidity. Good cheese shops and delicatessens, however, will stock many and Tesco makes a point of stocking the winning cheeses.

Beenleigh Blue, made with ewes milk, has a fudgy vour and a hint of the sea. Robin Congden Beenleigh's creator, has taken the year-round coolness and constant humidity of the caves of Roquefort as a freshed airflow into his maturing rooms.

Stilton once was not deemed ripe until squirming with maggots. Now ripeness is judged by the appearance of a creamy texture. The best Stiltons. such as the meliow Coiston Basset, have green veining on a cream background, rather than blue on white.

The Lancashire produced by Ruth Kirkham, one of this year's award winners. bears no resemblance to the usual plastic-wrapped rectangle. Her delicate hanA guided tour of farms and

specialists with Kate

Weatherell

dling of the curds produces a creamy, firm and only slightly crumbly texture.

Appleby's Cheshire is crumbly, mellow and ear-thy, with a sometimes greentinged white rind. mould on the rind of the Caerphilly made by Chris Duckett, of Somerset, invades the maturing cheese, producing an earthy

The fruity and explosive Montgomery — another of this year's winners — and nutty, creamy Keen's represent the smaller of the traditional West Country

Waterloo, a yellow Guernsey milk cheese, runs like the best from a French farmhouse and has a peppery grassiness.

But the most voluptuous, meaty and pungent of them all must be Irish Milleens, the 1997 Supreme Champion of the British cheese awards.

The nanny-goat's contri-bution is extensive, be it Ticklemore, with its ridged dusty oyster shell rind, or Golden Cross, which matures to a well-balanced flavour. Ash-sprinkled Tymsboro, from Avon, winner of this year's best soft white cheese award, is goat heaven when ripe.

Ireland produces some stunning cheeses, not least Mine Gabhar, with a rich, velvety texture and earthy

Sheep milking has pro-duced the likes of Berkswell, a Pecorino-style cheese that combines fruitiness



Take your pick from a range of British-made cheeses

CALL The Times International Festival of Fine Wine & Food hotline: 0171-244-0950 (lines are open Mon-Tickets cost £16 per person glass, catalogue and deliv-

HOW TO BOOK

and include free tastings

ery of wine and non-perishable purchases by White Arrow Express. Please note there is strictly no admit-

Investing in fine wine can bring rich returns, writes Sue Spenceley Burch

There is wine — everyday plonk and the better stuff drunk on high days and holidays. And then there is wine which is hardly ever drunk, not because it is bad, but because it is so good.

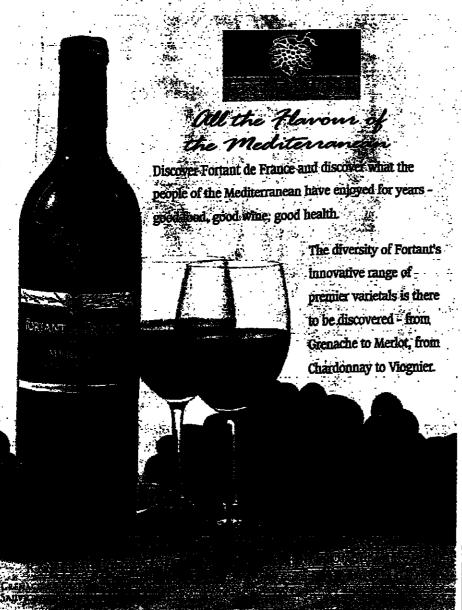
There is a healthy investment market for fine wine. Simon Staples manages the broking department at the London wine merchants Berry Bros & Rudd. He says there is no comparison with other forms of investment; if you pick the right wine. In May 1991 you could have bought ten cases of 1990 Chareau

Put money where your mouth is

least £3,000 a read That's a return of £30,000 and a profit of £30,000 from had invested the £4,000 in an investment Latour or Château Margaux at around £400 per case, and

according to Reuters Hindsight, it would have yielded £7,922 — a profit of £3,922.

trust over the same period, Massive new demand from



sky high. Fine wine has suddenly become a status symbol, but with relatively little experience, these new wine drinkers turn for advice to Robert Parker Jr, reputedly the world's most famous wine writer, who writes for Wine Advocate, an American

magazine. His opinions are so highly regarded that the market apparently follows wherever he leads. Wine trade insiders believe that Mr Parker now has so much influence that some Bordeaux châteaux are secretly adapting their wines to his tastes.

Mr Staples says: "Parker grades wines out of 100 and when he gives a wine the magical 100 points, the price shoots up. Some people are taking ridiculous gambles based on what he says. He rates new wines out of the cask - but they still have two more years in the barrel. You could be completely disappointed when it has matured." Simon Woods, editor of the

Which? Wine Guide, says: "I have heard of expensive wine being opened and then mixed with Coca-Cola, because the owner didn't like the taste. Very few wines have invest-ment potential. The prime area is Bordeaux, but only 50 out of thousands of wines are worth looking at. There hasn't been a really good vintage since 1990."

For someone just starting, and looking to capitalise on their investment in five years. Mr Staples says: "Don't go for the very top wines. Instead look at, say, a 1986 Pichon-Longueville-Lalande. This wine is highly Parker-rated and is currently £1,000 a case."

In general, Mr Staples recommends buying wine by the case: "Whole cases are much easier to sell. Don't just buy a few bottles from a shop unless it is an amazing bargain." You should also keep your wine in a bonded warehouse. Duty and VAT are only payable when the wine is taken out of bond, but you can sell it without moving it.

Buy five or ten cases rather than just one - unless it is the ultimate, top wine. You could buy larger lots from lesser châteaux - say 50 cases of 1996 Château Pontet-Canet. Rated highly by Parker, it currently costs £200 per case. Mr Staples believes you could soon double your money.

Vizards

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Available exclusively from selected branches of Unwins, Tesco and Greenhills Wines & Spirits (Dublin) SOLE DISTRIBUTOR: PRIVATE LIQUOR BRANDS, 55-55 CANTELUPE ROAD, EAST GRINSTEAD, WEST SUSSEX RH19 3BE. TEL: 01342 518282 FAX: 01342 514025 Frances Bissell describes the preparations she and fellow professional cooks put into their demonstrations in the Celebrity Kitchen

Game to put on a bit of a show

the Celebrity Kitchen With Easy Autumn Entertaining. I thought I was the only one being evasive about what I was going to cook. But no, we have Autumn Evenings from Brian Baker: Winter is Upon Us from Henry Harris: A Seasonal Menu from Sue Lawrence; Winter Warmers Made Easy from Herbert Berger: and more in the same vein, which some of you might think irritatingly vague. But it is not that at all. I promise you.

Cooks love preparing food in season, and when Lyn Hall asks us, in the late spring, what we are going to be cooking for the festival in mid-October. I, for one, find it impossible to decide. I am still cooking asparagus and salmon trout.

Jersey Royals and gooseberries, and it is difficult to think about autumnal food. Even now, although I know I shall be cooking game and have tested the recipe for it. I shall not know until the day before my demonstration whether it will be pheasant or venison. Fortunately, my recipes are adaptable and the one I have in mind can be used for a range of game with only minor adaptations.

Game is a popular theme this year, and probably Herbert Berger, Hugo Arnold and cooking it. A marvellous ingredient to work with, game is especially good for cookery

strictly time-controlled. The best way to cook game is quickly and simply, to retain its flavour and texture, and then match it with lively. unusual or season accompani-

Those with a sweet tooth have plenty of choice this year. James Martin offers Great Fruity Puddings and Matthew Hardy, of the Cordon Bleu. introduces festive desserts with a new look in his demonstration, entitled Sugar and Spice. My own offering in the oud department is possibly

We have to be ready 15 minutes in advance, and must not overrun our slot

> one of the simplest recipes you will ever come across. It requires only two ingredients. one of them chocolate.

> Maria Josè Sevilla, best known as an expert on Spanish and Mediterranean food, cooks with wine, and Anthony Tobin with olive oil. Top London tables are represented by Willi Elsener from the Dorchester, Anton Edelmann from the Savoy, and Antony Worrall Thompson from his new restaurant, W02. Alastair Little will be presenting dishes from his cookery course at La Cacciata in Tuscany.

However, the real star of this four-day festival of cookery demonstrations is Lyn Hall, of La Petite Cuisine fame. She it is who has got us all organised into a schedule, persuaded us to provide our recipes in good time, and then looks after us when we arrive. She runs a military-style operation with runners, mobile phones and a trolley and helper waiting for us outside. Here we unload and make our way to the preparation

The first time I did one of these demonstrations, I came laden with pots and pans and containers, as well as cooking

utensils and knives. Like most cooks and chefs, I carry my knives to cook, but Lyn has the kitchen well stocked with the very best equipment, including serving dishes and neat little

containers for the weighed-out ingredients. All I need to do now is bring everything in labelled, sealed, plastic bags, and the mis en place for each dish goes into a separate carrier bag. I feel much less like a packhorse when I arrive at Olympia

these days. Each of us is instructed by Lyn to be ready 15 minutes in advance, and not, under any circumstances, to overrun our

She does not, I should add, check that our finger nails are not grubby, and ask us if we have a clean hankie, but I'm sure she could get away with



Celebrity cook Alastair Little, who will be presenting dishes from his cookery course at La Cacciata in Tuscany

In from the cold

Austrian wines

return after scandal over

'antifreeze'

MENTION Austrian wines to many people and they will recall memories of the scandal in which "antifreeze" was used as a sweetening additive, with disastrous consequ

for Austrian exports. Austria now has one of the most strictly controlled wine industries in the world, but it is still seeking its rightful recognition as a producer of

fine quality wines. This year, for the first time. Austrian wines will be featured at the International Festival of Fine Wine and Food, at Olympia in London

from October 9 to 12. Unusual grape varieties, the peculiarities of Austrian micro-climates and the minerals in Austrian soils, as well as deeply imbued wine-making traditions, give Austria's finest wines exceptionally musky and spicy flavours, reminiscent of an exotic oriental

Austria's most widely planted grape is the Grüner Veltliner, which produces much bland and ordinary wine but in its finer examples packs a fiery, spicy flavour. like white pepper. Welschriesling and Müller-Thurgau (often labelled Riesling x Silvaner) are two other popular Austrian white grapes, with Blaufränkisch and Blauer Portugieser the most widely planted reds. Austrian wines tend to be far more full-bodied, alcoholic and beefy than those of its northern neighbour Germany, and a good deal finer than almost anything its east-

ern neighbours can offer. ROBIN YOUNG

Spain pops champagne's bubble

Cava is so successful even French champagne houses such as Moët et f experts told you a E5.30 bottle of Spanish cava and a £60 bottle of French

Chandon are making the prizewinning sparkling wine, says Edward Owen champagne were as good as each other, which would you nuel Duran, the deputy chairnow accounts for 35 per cent of about half the price of the

buy? Wine buffs undertaking Spain — has ironically been a blind tasting for Wine magazine's International Wine Challenge chose a Spanish cava as the best budget sparkling wine of the year. The judges said that Freixenet's Segura Viudas strictly produced by mėthode champenoise

Heredad Brut "puts a lot of the French competition to shame". In the judging for the Brut and Extra Dry Trophy, the same cava and another from Freixenet level-pegged with several very expensive cham-pagnes for the silver award.

The huge rise in the popularity of cava — mainly pro-duced in the Penedès region of achieved since it was categorised with its own Denomination of Origin. It was forced to stop calling itself champagne even though it is

Much of the success of the Spanish bubbly is due to the high standards and aggressive marketing of the two main cava producers. Freixenet and

The tastings show that people who know a lot about wine found cava to be on a par with champagne," says Maman of Freixenet, which has 100 million bottles in its cellars in Sant Sadurni.

In their Wine Challenge category, Segura Viudas Reserva Heredad (E11.50) and the Freixenet cava supplied for the Safeway cava Brut label (£5_30) received a silver award alongside the likes of Dom Perignon Prestige Cuvée (£60.40).

But cava producers claim that they are not trying to compete with champagne and point out that the latter's sales have not fallen because of cava's success. Globally, cava sparkling wine sales while champagne takes 25 per cent.

"We are not trying to imitate champagne," Señor Duran emphasises. "We are trying to make a good sparkling wine this. The explanation for the growing boom in cava is that more and more people are looking for value for money." In the UK, champagne still

sells more because of its image. "It is prestigious to give someone a bottle that has cost £60, it is a good present. But a bottle of cava costs about £7 and our top award winner is average champagne," he adds. In the UK last year, Freixenet sales jumped a third and accounted for 60 per cent

of the 6.5 million bottles of cava sold. Freixenet also supply Marks & Spencer and Tesco Codombis Civée Raventés Brut, launched this year to celebrate the bodeea's 125th anniversary, is selling well in the UK at the upper end of the cava market. Two advantages of cava's price and quality, available from semi seco to brut, are that tipplers are happier to use it rather

than an expensive champagne

Moët et Chandon own one of the 280 cava bodegas in Spain, which last year, collectively, sold 83 million bottles at

that demand champers.

for making cocktails or for seafood and dessert recipes

home and 60.7 million abroad. Ten years ago Moët started producing their first cava in Catalonia and this year expects to export 60 per cent of 700,000 bottles. In Spain, Moët's cava label is Chandon whereas in Britain it is called

Torre de Gall (£7.99). We decided to use our tremendous savoir-faire to try to produce the best sparkling wine," Marc Ferté, the export manager in Barcelona, says. "Here we are not fighting the big boys — just aiming for a premium brand."

The halls have already seen some parties. Carpets have to mackerel. Try: that .terrific. There is a source for further inspiration: dry white sauvignon is the classic accompaniment in France for

candidate to go with other cheeses too. f other whites, chenin blanc is most frequently linked to apples. It makes one think of apple sauce with pork, fried apple slices with black pudding, and apple used in cabbage dishes. Gewürztraminer is reckoned spicy.

goat's cheeses, and therefore a

and likened to lychees. My suggestion is that in-stead of disregarding wine commentators' descriptions as fanciful, you should take them as a basis for what food that wine might accompany

Vintners follow in footsteps of Rome

Derwent May goes in search

of the new wine world of

Vinopolis

EVERY day the South Bank of the Thames grows more interesting. Behind Southwark Cathedral, past Drake's Golden Hind and the Clink Prison. runs the Cannon Street railway viaduct. Underneath, it is a vast world of soaring, dusty halls and Roman arches that in a year or so will have turned into the city of Vinopolis.

A new company, Wineworld London, has leased this catacomb-like realm from Railtrack, and is planning to turn it into a kind of wine

theme park.
The brick halls will turn into 20 colourful pavilions devoted to different wine regions of the world. The Italian pavilion will allow you to sit in Florentine splendour on a Vespa, learning all about Barolo and Valpolicella; the Californian pavilion will evoke a modern wine making world of stain-less-steel splendour. In the Bordeaux pavilion,

the organisers hope to hang some of the original paintings on which the Château Latour wine labels were based. Visitors to the Wine Odyssey, as it will be called, will be able to end their tour of the pavilions. without further charge, with a tasting of five wines from a selection of 300, some of them exclusive to Vinopolis.

That is not all the wine that will be found there. At the end of the tour, the Odyssey visitors will find a Majestic Wine warehouse in one of the largest halls, and a shop called Bacchanalia selling wine accessories from corkscrews to CD Roms.

On the side of the complex facing the river, there will be restaurants and a Gourmet Club — altogether there will he four restaurants of different character in the complex. On the first floor there will be a wine school, five suites for corporate hospitality, and a champagne-tasting bar

The man behind this vision is Duncan Vaughan-Arbuckle, a wine merchant who used to store some of his cases among the Victorian yellow brick. The company will be raising £19 million to set it up. and have found a large number of keen investors.

been laid on the floors and the partygoers have danced to candlelight. Several rock groups have asked to hold parties there but until the complex is soundproofed they are being turned down because the company does not want to upset its neighbours. Vinopolis will be helped by the fact that the Globe theatre is a few hundred yards away, that Bankside power station is about to be transformed into the modern wing of the Tate Gallery, and that there will soon be a new Jubilee Line station near by

If Wineworld's hopes are fulfilled, there will be half a million wine buffs coming every year to Vinopolis, their noses, palates and minds all dreaming of gratification. They will all be following in

the tracks of the Romans, who had a wine store here 2,000 years ago. Its remains were recently dug up, and will be

Be bold and fruity – enjoy wine taste of blackberries. Step forward those who love brazi-

val of Fine Wine and Food acknowledges and emphasises the partnership of food and wine that is an everyday fact of life in countries where wine is produced and regarded as a staple beverage.

In Britain, however, an element of mystery still surrounds the subject. This mystery is compounded by a number of myths and rules.

Take, for example, the best known rule — red wine with meat, white with fish. It is rubbish, and always has been. In wine-producing countries, there is no shortage of recipes for fish cooked in red wine. Many people find young, fresh and fruity red wine, possibly served chilled, as delightful with most fish dishes as any white. Even salmon steak sits happily alongside pink wine or a light

red, while darker fleshed oilrich fish such as mackerel, sardines and tuna are as compatible with full-bodied red wines as red meat.

Now pay attention. When butter or a butter sauce.

example, salmon steak, or smoked salmon (usual accompaniment, brown bread and butter) — but also possibly a beef steak, which is often served topped with a blob of maitre d' butter. And of course, chardonnay is the grape which makes the classic white burgundies which are the standard recommended partners for salmon dishes,

for example, wine writers correctly draw attention to the fact that many white wines made from chardonnay grapes have a "buttery" texture, they are in fact telling you that it will go with dishes you might want to eat with

That would include for

Confused by the 'rules' of drinking?

Robin Young offers his advice

and a good white alternative to go with steak or chops. Čabernet sauvignon is com-monly described as having a blackcurrant flavour, or flavours of "red berry fruits". It goes well with meat dishes that might be accompanied with fruit sauces or jeilies from similar sources. Cabernet franc, its fellow constitu-

ent of many clarets, is

reckoned to have flavours

akin to redcurrants. Red-

currant jelly is, of course, a recognised partner for lamb. Merlot, the other important claret grape, has a plummy flavour. Plum sauces are favoured in Chinese cuisine to go with duck - but the French also like duck with

Someone is likely now to say "But I like duck with cherries", or if they are really old-fashioned "I love duck d l'orange". For the cherry flavour I suggest something Italian made with sangiovese (chianti classico would be fine), while the orange lovers are probably more likely to

an inspired choice. So it goes on Beaujolais reminds some people of ba-nanas, which recalls to my mind a dish of my youth called chicken Maryland, seldom seen nowadays, but proof that banana flavour can go very pleasingly with chick-en, as can beaujolais. Zinfandel and syrah are often said to

Bear in mind too that these intensely fruity red wines can also go with chocolate. Chocolates, after all, come with fruit-flavoured centres. This whole business of discussing the partnership between wine and food should be about

tive couplings, not about compiling rule books trying to restrict or inhibit choice. So among the whites the light, dry wines of several prefer a citric white — an Austrian riesling might prove varieties are described as. "lemony" — which is why they go well with the sort of fish often served with lemon

slices, or with chicken, which can also be cooked in various lemon recipes. Sauvignon blanc tastes somewhat like gooseberries. The Prench have little use for

promoting new and imagina-

really well. Be bold! Enjoy!

Jumbo party: elephant displays at a private function

t the top end of the market outside catering" — for wed-dings, anniversaries and especially business functions -- is growing grander and grander. In the business, it is better known as

location catering". This means providing five-star restaurant standard food in a severely limited period of time at a venue that might be a field, a museum or a warehouse for as many as 1,000 people or even more.

'Imagine," says Johnny Roxburgh of party organisers and caterers. The Admirable Crichton, "arriving home from work at 6pm and having to provide dinner for 900 people by

This is virtually what he and the Admiral Chrichton staff had to do for the British Fashion Awards dinner staged at the Natural History Museum last year and what they will be doing there once again next week. Though spectacular with its dino-

saurs and soaring vaulted ceilings, this location is always a challenge for the caterer who is barred from the public areas until 6pm when the last museum visitor leaves. Details of how the event will be staged next week are locked tightly away at The Admirable Crichton. But for last

Fancy a fried cockroach or a custard pie fight?

Kate Weatherell looks at the specialist party organisers who provide food on the hoof and the razzmatazz

transformed the main stairway, into a waterfall flanked with naked men painted as zebras. The torrent flowed from the mouth of a huge African

"It always amazes me how these young chefs produce five-star restaurant food for such numbers out of a kitchen which has only existed for two hours," he says. The kitchen has to be right. This means that when looking at a venue the practical considerations are key. Are the floors level for the ovens? How much retrigeration do you require? Power?

Water? Loos? Recently Caprice Events, which caters privately primarily for regulars from the restaurants Le Caprice and The Ivy. organised the Tate Gallery's centenary gala dinner. With 550 guests sitting down for three courses, this was the largest dinner

Both starter and pudding were cold, but the main course ambitiously involved a roast fillet of sea bass; not a dish that can hang around for long either in an oven or on a table top. This was a military operation with 15 ovens and 25 chefs in two self-built temporary kitchens," says Tamsyn Kenyon, Events' organiser. "We brought in the electrics, the genera-

Recently an American CD-Rom company was launching a computer game involving cockroaches taking over New York. The event took place at London Zoo. "We served fresh cockroaches and mini scorpions sauteed to order and sweet ants," said Tania Hirschberg of the catering company As You Like it. "Of course we had the usual Thai fishcakes with coconut dip and black bean and chicken on prawn crackers, but the press seemed to prefer the insects . . . "

from Australia about a fish barbecue in Melbourne where the host threw live fish into his swimming pool. The guests were handed rods and nets. The chefs gutted and grilled to order.

There are other ways of making an event special. A cruise round the storeroom of Rhubarb Food Design is a revelation in canapé presentation. At weddings you may be proffered a canapé from the brim of a straw hat, or a tiny silver spoon of caviar on a velvet tassled cushion. There are strips of Astroturf woven with daisies and scattered with mooing plastic cows for the beef carpaccio canapé, remoulded car typres, sci-fi landscapes, tipper trucks

"We like to give them a little more than they expected. It's the little things that make people laugh," explains Lucy Gemmel of Rhubarb. For special events, people want She places great emphasis on

menu design. Food should be kept as uncomplicated as possible. The bread should be great, the canapés and petit fours memorable and the coffee good. The starter and pudding should shine and the main course should be

simple and delicious.

More temperamental dishes can be served on location but must be tried and tested. Rhubarb's aubergine and Parmesan souffle served in a hollowed artichoke has held up for 300 guests in the past. "It's not like a restaurant with a static kitchen where you can perfect a menu," adds Ms Gemmel. "In location catering you never know what will happen

next. It is always different.*: Out beyond the doors of restaurants, catering is still about "location location and location". Party organiser William Bartholemew says he has never turned a party down due to location or through logistical

He once ran a smart cocktail party in a decorated London warehouse. After 30 minutes of drinking, four large curtains were lifted to reveal 3,000 custard pies to the insouciant guests. Cocktail dresses, dinner jackets and all, they started throwing them. It can be amazing where you find yourself, he says.

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School run is under fire

This month, all schools in Surrey -- more than 500 of them - will receive their Safe Routes to School Challenge. The idea is that schools try to convince the 51 per cent of children who arrive by car that there is a cheaper and often healthier way.

It is estimated that 10 per cent of traffic on roads during term time is ferrying children and that this can reach 40 per cent at peak times.

The Surrey Challenge is the latest instalment in a project to encourage more children to walk and cycle to school. Surrey County Council, funded by the DoT, has undertaken an intense study in Frimley, a modern suburban development near Camberley, where 12 schools share key routes. There were significant differences between secondary and primary schools, girls and boys and going to and from

Sarah Duckworth, Surrey Council's project leader, says. Sometimes it's a question of whether there is a second car in the family and sometimes it's safe routes. But it is also a question of schools having a culture where the mums like to stop and talk, travel together and the children likewise."

Parental concern about danger is a major factor. Twice as many parents worried about their children walking and cycling to primary school as travelling by train or bus. In Frimley, for example alhad far to:trave two thirds of parents drove their children to school.

Fears of parents declined considerably at secondary school level and the numbers who drove children to school halved. More than half those going to the highly rated comprehensive. Tomlinscote, walked. Twelve per cent of the secondary boys and I per cent of the girls cycled to school. Almost 10 per cent of those dropped off at school walked back, suggesting that parents could fit in the trip on their way to work but not on their

way back.
The council is considering a range of solutions: cycle proficiency for both parents and children, cycle tracks and better and secure facilities for bikes at the school all have their place. Better road crossing would help to encourage walking.

early all parents felt that their children would benefit from walking and cycling more often. Ten years ago children walked 50 miles a year more than they do today and cycled ten miles more a year. Almost all children (in the Frimley area) own bikes.

Secondary school children who travelled by car stated (in order of importance) it was because their parents "came that way" it was too far too walk and their parents preferred it that way. Fewer then 10 per cent said it was either more convenient or faster. At sixth-form level the car problem rears its head in a slightly different way with nearly 40 per cent of pupils driving themselves to college.

Dr John Trig, deputy head of Tomlinscote School, says: Fear of traffic among parents is rather like their fear of their children being attacked. It's vastly exaggerated by their feeling that the odd story they read in the national press is being repeated every day locally. We have a real parking problem with parents. To break the cycle there need to be both national and local

Children at Tomlinscore were asked for a "wish list of improvements" to encourage them to walk, cycle or use public transport more often. These included more and safer places to cross the roads; cycle puths separated from traffic. foorpath links; a reduction and slowing of traffic; bus stops nearer home and school; better lighting: more policemen. iollipop ladies and traffic wardens; and special school buses so that parents and children

can travel together.

Some independent schools are not as successful as they may seem, says John Rae

The heads' tail end

the Headmasters' and Headmistresses Conference (HMC) takes place next week in Brighton. The spartan living and frugal fare once associated with these occasions have been replaced by the comfortable surroundings of a four-star hotel. One item on the agenda, however, is likely to give those attending an uncomfortable ride.

A millennium working party has been sounding members' opinion on the future of HMC. No one expects its report to be radical because members are in favour of the status quo, but there is one awkward question that cannot be avoided. Should the qualification for membership of HMC be changed?

The present qualifications are that 30 per cent of pupils over 13 must be studying for two or more A levels, and 75 per cent of A-level candidates must achieve a pass grade in at least two subjects.

By linking the qualification to the school's performance at A level, HMC signalled that it stood for academic standards and that prospective parents could be assured that a school whose head was in membership of HMC would not let them down academically.

It must have seemed a sensible way of restricting membership to a manageable size but it has turned out to be a trap. As the number of Aevel passes has risen, either because candidates are working harder or because the exam is getting easier, the academic qualification for membership of HMC has lost credibility. League tables have exposed the long tail of academically weak HMC schools, some of whose results are so poor they do not appear on the eague table at all.

The requirement that 75 per cent of candidates obtain two A-level passes is now so undemanding that those weak schools have been allowed to hang on to membership even though their academic performance does not justify it. If HMC wishes to be seen to represent the leading academic 'boys' and coeducational independent schools, it will have to raise the academic

The new hurdle should be set at a level that carries

parents. An average points score of six, or grade C for each subject entry at A level, would be about right. If a school failed to reach this standard for three consecutive years, the head's membership of HMC would be withdrawn. On the evidence of this year's Times league table, about 40 HMC schools, that is 16 per cent of the membership, would be at risk, including such familiar names as Blundell's, Rossall.and.Stowe. The heads at Brighton will

be rejuctant to consider such a proposal. Though they compete for pupils, they rely on one another for friendship and

support. HMC is above all a good club. But unless they face this question, the status and the competitive edge that membership of HMC gives their schools will disappear. From its early days, HMC

has been the arbiter of which schools could properly be called public schools. Few people talk about public schools today but an informal ranking exists nevertheless. The so-called top boys schools" are the members of HMC. Schools in the second rank are members of the Society of Headmasters and Headmistresses of Independent Schools (SHMIS). Some

of the latter are widely regarded as better than the weaker members of HMC but because they are small and have different priorities, such as the development of pupils who need learning support, they do not qualify for membership.

Not surprisingly, some members of SHMIS think HMC's attitude perpetuates old snobberies. Though they value their own organisation. they would like to see HMC abandon its academic qualifications and open its doors to ennd bovs tional schools. The heads at Brighton will

desperately need the added value of membership. No one will put it in those terms. Instead, it will be argued that opening the door to SHMIS schools will make HMC too large. But if all SHMIS schools were allowed to join. HMC membership would rise from 240 to 290, an increase of only a few members in each regional division where most routine business is discussed.

The weaker HMC schools

The argument about the size of HMC is a red herring. Reluctance to change, whether by raising the academic hurdle or by admitting all good schools, regardless of A-level results, is all about protecting the weaker schools already in membership. HMC's seal of approval fills empty places.
Only those heads whose

schools meet rigorous entry criteria are admitted," explains one of the school guides consulted by parents, "and this helps to ensure that HMC is synonymous with high-quality education." What the guides do not tell parents is how modest the "rigorous entry criteria" now are. If parents knew that all a school needed was 75 per cent of candidates passing two A levels, they would soon lose faith in HMC as a guarantor of high-quality education. That is why, for the heads in

Brighton, the status quo is not an option. They have to choose between restoring HMC's academic credibility at the expense of up to 40 schools, and dropping the academic qualifi-cation altogether and merging with SHMIS. They will almost certainly opt for the latter. Admitting new members is much less painful than ejecting old friends. This merger will pave the

way for another. The Girls Schools Association (GSA), which has 220 members, admitted as good independent schools regardless of A-level results, is an obvious partner. A merger between GSA and HMC would strengthen the unity of the independent sector, save money and give the heads of independent secondary schools more clout with the Government, the media and governing bodies.

These changes will not happen overnight but in Brighton

Why lifelong lessons work

Tony Mooney on a survey that compares US and British results

education

as ending

when they

ur politicians are adept at creating the impression that schools are underperforming and that this will adversely affect our ability to compete in world markets. Reference is often made to tables comparing the poor performance of our children in maths and science tests with those from other countries. The politicians argue that unless our schools educate children to the levels achieved in other developed countries, then our economy will suffer.

How then do they explain last week's report showing 13vear-olds in Britain outperforming those in the United States in mathematics and science? Both countries finished below such economic power-

way and Roma-

nia. American

children consistently perform less well in the tests than their British counterparts, yet the American economy is thriving. Nor is the relatively poor performance of American

children in comparative tests a new phenomenon: as long ago as 1983, the US Department of Education in the off-quoted report A Nation at Risk highlighted the so-called "sorry" state of American education. "If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might well have viewed it as an act of war. We have, in effect, been committing an act of unthinking, unilateral educational disarmament." So why is the poor perfor-

mance of American schools not yet having the devastating effect on the US economy that so many economists predict?

One theory suggests that highly educated workforce is not necessary to compete in the global mar- the nation's productivity.

ketplace. All that is needed is a highly educated elite that can carry out the research, make the scientific and technological discoveries and then apply and market the new knowledge. The rest of the workforce need only be educated to the functional level necessary to maintain a modern infrastructure. It is argued that America has more or less reached the fine balance that is needed to keep itself ahead of its competitors.

This line of argument is, however, not supported by the facts. The questionable

performance is not affecting the Americans nation's economy because of other educationdo not see factors of which we need to take note. First, most

Americans do not see education as ending when they leave leave school of 18. There is an expectation that

most students will go on to college to further their learning and then advance it even further when they start work. Companies are more geared to training and developing their employees than many in the UK and as a result learning is a life-

second factor in keeping the US out in front is its attitude to what constitutes useful knowledge as taught in its readily accepted that any subject studied in higher education is useful preparation for the commercial world. American courses are much more scientific and technologically based. The American experience

suggests that the health of a nation's economy is not necessarily linked to the performance of its schools. Our politicians need to concentrate their energies on promoting the idea of life-long education to improve

Fred Redwood gives advice on parents' evenings

A month of the new term has passed and it is time for the schools to organise the first of their parents' consultation evenings. Although potentially beneficial and informative, these events often, more than a polite ritual.

sadly, amount to little Teachers take shelter behind the specialist language of education-speak, firing off reams of Mat-ional Curriculum scores. while sturmed parents gain very little real understanding of the progress of their children. In order to make the

most of parents' evenings. it is wise to follow a carefully prepared game plan. Parents and child should look through the term's workbooks and files. While keeping the atmosphere positive, they should discuss specific topics which pose problems.

It is sometimes forgotten that parents have a role to play as their child's representative at the parents' evening, After all, it is often easier for an adult to make a teacher aware of a problem with learning than it is for the child

to do so by speaking up in class. So this discussion should be taken seriously. During the consultation evening itself, parents should ensure that they gain an accurate picture of the child's ability. The national curriculum levels are too broad to be meaningful: pupils may take over a year to move from one level to the next. So teachers should be questioned about how the child performs in relation to the year group. The results of any other standardised forms of testing that the

school may use should also be requested. When teachers mention national curriculum levels parents should ask what they mean in relation to skills acquired. It is vital that they are not palmed off with the "average ability. making satisfactory progress" opt-out clause. Assessment must be accurate because if a child is beginning to fall behind then this could be the best time to employ a home-tutor.

The question of seating arrangements is

important. It is not uncommon for teachers to arrange classroom groupings so that an industrious pupil is partnered with a disruptive one - the former to exert a good influence on the latter. That's fine if the arrangement has the However, if your child is the better motivated planned effect.

of the pair and progress is hindered by this social altruism then it is time to complain. It is also a good idea to ask the child's opinion an travel together.

HUGH THOMPSON

also a good total to ask the child's opinion regarding where he works most productively—at the front or back of the class and with whom. If the teacher agrees with the assessment there

Before you meet Sir, do your homework



Parents benefit from a game plan

is no reason why accom-modation should not be made for these wishes. The question of behaviour is a very sensitive one. Some teachers are reluctant to report incidents of misbehaviour to

parents, suspecting that it reflects badly on their classroom discipline. Others have high-minded ideas about the sanctity of the teacher-pupil relation-ship. Personally, I believe it is important that parents know how their children conduct themselves at school. They should certainly refer to the issue if the teacher

does not bring it up. It is very important that parents understand what is required of their children in terms of academic commitment. The teachers supervise work in school but parents have a role to play in checking that homework is being completed satisfactorily. They should ask when homework is set and which topics are due to be covered in the coming months. Nearly all conprehensives - and many primary schools too now issue homework organiser books. The par-

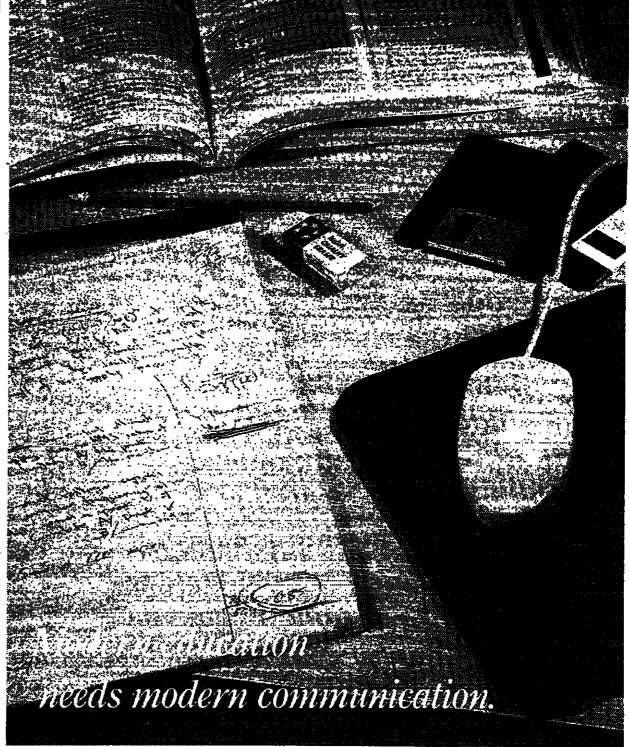
ents' evening is the time to check the school policy for commenting in and signing these helpful "diaries" when homework has been

Information should also be obtained about the amount of help each teacher finds acceptable with homework. Some more enlightened schools set homework tasks which specifically require the involvement of parents. However this is very much a matter for each individual teacher. The amount of parental help which is acceptable also varies a good deal from subject For example, an English teacher may

welcome co-operation in checking through a first draft of writing; helping to correct spelling and sentence construction. No teacher can pay such close attention to each piece of work from every child in a class, so help will most likely be welcomed. However, a mathematics teacher may demand a single, preferred approach to problem-solving. The contribution of reaching methods from your old schooldays may make for confusion. Most importantly, some homeworks

may take the form of course work assignments for GCSE, in which case parents must offer no help whatsoever. So the issue of homework must be broached. Too many parents leave parents' evenings having learnt little beyond the anecdotal. A planned strategy for approaching these meetings ensures that they gain the hard informa-

tion to which they are entitled.



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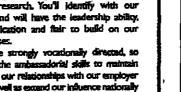
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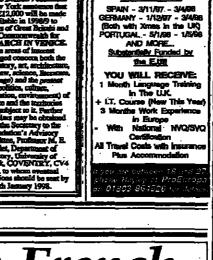
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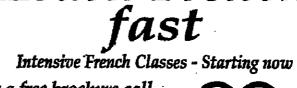
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هكذامن رالإمل

THE TIMES FRIDAY OCTOBER 3 1997 Court of Appeal

0111 Jey

MESS WALLEY

جوموه درايق الماجين إنجاش

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Marie Care

Marine Control of the James State

for Trade and Industry

Court of Appeal

Costs order not justified

Seifert v Pensions Ombudsman and Others Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Ward and Lord Justice Mummery Judgment July 3()

It was not a sufficient ground to order the Pensions Ombudsman to pay the costs of all the parties' appeals from his decision that part of his determination was set aside. The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing

appeals brought by: (l) the Pensions Ombudsman, Mr Julian Farrand, QC, against the order for costs made against him in the Chancery Division by him in the Chancery Division by Mr Justice Lightman (The Times August 9, 1995; [1997] I All ER 214), when he had allowed appeals by John Seifert, Anthony Lynch and Philip Helm, fortner trustees, and Enismount Trustees Services Ltd. Fairmount Trustee Services Ltd from a determination of the ombudsman dated December 5, 1995 upholding complaints by Mr Erdogan Kural of maladministra-tion by the former trustees and by

(2) Mr Kural against the decision by Mr Justice Lightman that his complaint had no substance. Mr Christopher Nugee for the ombudsman; Mr David Rees for Mr Seifert: Mr Adam Deacock for Mr Kural; Mr John Stephens for

his former employer, Seifert Lid;

JUSTICE STAUGHTON, delivering the judgment of the court, said that a

and the trustees of their pension scheme. No doubt Mr Kural thought that the Pensions Ombudsman would provide a rapid and just resolution of the problem. Five years later there was still a dispute, large amounts of money and effort had been spent seeking to resolve it and Mr Kural

had not yet received any pension. In a letter of December 0, 1991, the employers gave Mr Kural six months notice of his redundancy. and offered him the option of early retirement. After some earlier pro-posals, on February 17, 1992, the employers provided Mr Kural with a quotation provided by Guardian Assurance of his entitle-

ment under the scheme.

Mr Kural's notice expired on
June 8, 1992 and he left his employment. However, as his pension arrangements were thought to be still under negotiation. he was not in receipt of a pension when the scheme began to be wound up on June 30, 1992. On July 8, 1992 the employers went into administrative receivership; and on August 18 Fairmount was appointed independent trustee of

the scheme.
On October 8, 1992 Guardian Assurance wrote to Fairmount that the assets held were insufficient to secure the calculated liability in full, and that the current funded position was 83 per cent. That information was passed on to Mr Kural by Fairmount on October 17. There was further correspondence until Mr Kural complained to the Pensions Ombudsman on January

against Guardian Financial Services; only later were others added Mr Kural asserted that he was wrongly offered 63 per cent of the required sum, when he should have been offered 83 per cent. which he would, most certainly, have accepted.

However, he enclosed a copy of a recent letter of his own claiming 100 per cent ... or at worst not less than 83 per cent". In April 1995 Mr Kural sent the ombudsman a copy of his letter dated March Zhin which he said that Guardian him 33 per cent. But in June he was writing to the ombudsman's office to show that he accepted the

100 per cent of his entitlement.

On October 12, 1995 the ombudsman sent a provisional determination to those concerned. On December 5, 1995 he published his final determination. He inserted in it some eight new paragraphs which desit with the matters raised by the individual trustees in their comments. That did not unfortunately contribute to clarity.
Instead it tended in some instances to introduce obscurity where the provisional determination had

Only three interests were repreby counsel before Mr Justice Lightman: (i) Mr Seifert, (ii) Mr Lynch and Mr Helm, and (iii) Fairmount. So there was no oral argument for either Mr Kural or the ombudsman. Mr Justice Lightman was very critical of the

that figure.

Their Lordships wished to make it clear that the guideline was not a straitjacket. They appreciated that cases might arise where for good reason the sentencing level could vary appropriately. Sentences had to retain a measure of flexibility to ice in individual cases. Had the appellant fought the

would have been 12 or 13 years. As it was a plea of guilty, the proper sentence would have been 10 years. and accordingly the appeal would be allowed, the 14-year sentence quashed and 10 years substituted. Solicitors: CPS, London.

ombudsman's procedure and of his decision.

There were live grounds for that cribcism: 1 The ombudsman's office failed to

send a copy of Mr Kural's letter of August 4, 1995, complaining that the employer's had not paid £75,300 into the pension scheme to bridge the gap until normal retire-ment age, to the others concerned in the complaint. 2 He failed to have regard to clause

21 of the definitive deed establishing the scheme, which exempted the trustees from liability for acts or omissions not due to their own wilful neglect or default. 3 His reasons were unimelligible.

4 His determination was not

ected at the complaint which he had received. 5 The complaint itself had no

Mr Justice Lightman had ordered that the directions of the ombudsman be set aside. That he should pay the taxed costs of Mr Lynch, Mr Helm and Mr Seifert, and that the balance of their costs should be paid out of the scheme. Lightman's criticisms were now accepted by the ombudsman. The remaining three points could be

aken together. The whole history of the dispute was fraught with imprecision and misunderstanding. That was liable to happen in the nature of things when a person untrained in the law made a complaint on a somewhat technical subject; unless the adjudicator insisted on know ing precisely what the complaint was, even if he had to define it for

The truth of the matter was that Mr Kural complained both against not receiving 83 per cent and against not receiving 100 per cent. In addition, in his letter of August 4, he complained that the employers had not paid the additional E75,300 into the scheme.

Mr Helm and Mr Lynch in their comments to the ombudsman concentrated on that last aspect of the complaint and did not grapple with the case that Mr Kural should have been paid the pension to which he was entitled.

In their Lordships' judgment the complaint made did have substance and that was the ground on which the determination was based. There was some degree of obscurity in the final determination, but not to any relevant extent in relation to that ground of

The appeals from the ombudsman were necessary and achieved a result, in that two paragraphs of his determination were and remained set aside. But that was not sufficient ground to order him to Solicitors: Mr John Yolland,

Putney: Jacobsens: Burton Woolf & Turk; Sacker & Partners...

that the appellant was convicted in Antonelli v Secretary of State the Recorder's Court in Detroit. Michigan of the crime of "burning Before Lord Justice Beldam, Lord real estate other than a dwelling

Justice Kennedy and Lord Justice house between December 1 and 8. (Judgment July 3) He did not serve the imposed The power of the Director General sentence of between 212 and 10 of Fair Trading to make an order years imprisonment but left for under section 3 of the Estate Agents Act 1979 disqualifying a Israel and later came to the United person from acting as an estate

ent could be exercised in respect conviction for an offence mmitted abroad before the Act effect enabling a conviction occurcame into force. The Court of Appeal so held in a ring before May 3, 1982, when the reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Mr Samuel Antonelli Act came into force, to be taken into account.

from a decision of Mr Justice Buxton on May II, 1995 on appeal from a decision of the secretary of state on August 6, 1993 that because of Mr Antonelli's readi-ness to commit violence gainst property there would be a risk of detriment to the public if he were to right acquired under existing laws, or creates a new obligation, or engage in estate agency work. Section 3 of the 1979 Act proposes a new duty, or attaches a new disability, in regard to events already past."

vides: "(1) The power of the Director General of Fair Trading ... to make an order ... shall not be exercisable unless that person — (a) has been convicted of — (i) an offence involving fraud or other dishonesty or violence, or. .

Mr Michael Beloff, QC and Miss Renee Calder for Mr Antonelli; Mr Duncan Ouseley. QC and Mr Rabinder Singh for the

Mr Beloff contended, inter alia. that the judge was wrong to hold that the 1979 Act had retrospective

Disqualifying estate agent

He relied on the general prin-ciple elucidated by Lord Brightman in Yew Bon Tew v Kenderaan Bas Mara [1983] 1 AC 553, 558); "A statute is retrospective if it takes away or impairs a vested

The Act, if the power was exercisable in respect of past convictions, would be imposing a new disability in regard to events

ilready passed. Mr Beloff also criticised the judge's decision because he had relied on the decision of the Divisional Court in In re a Solicitor's Clerk (1957) | WLR

order may be made are — (a) the

survival of the company, and the

whole or any part of its undertak-

ing, as a going concern; (b) the approval of a voluntary arrangement . . (c) the sanctioning under

section 425 of the Companies Act of

a compromise or arrangement . . .

and (d) a more advantageous

realisation of the company's assets than would be effected on a

Staughton in Secretary of State for Social Security v Tunnicliffe [[1901] 2 All ER 712, 724D).

But Mr Justice Buxton had regarded the case of In re a Solicitor's Clerk as the nearest parallel to the present case.

He pointed out that the passage

in the judgment of Lord Justice Staughton in which he expressed doubts about the validity of the decision was immediately followed by a passage cited with approval Lord Mustill in L'Office Cherifien des Phosphates v Yamashita-Shinnihon Steamship Co Lid (1994) AC 486, 524). Yei Lord Mustill did not refer to or express any doubts about the decision in In re a Solicitor's Clerk.

In L'Office Cherifien des Phosphates the House of Lords had considered the approach to the construction of legislative pro-visions capable of impairing existing right by reference to past After considering various stat-

utes and decisions on them Lord Mustill had said (at p527D): These cases do not point directly to a conclusion, but they do demonstrate that where an intermediate type of retrospectivity is in issue the purpose of the legislation and the hardship of the result contended for are of particular importance."

Adopting that approach his Lordship said that it would be

should be protected from the activities of a practitioner con-victed a week after the Act came into force but not from those convicted a week before.

Turning to the hardship if the result if the power was exercisable in respect of past convictions, it was accepted that the power to disqualify was severe and could be a catastrophic hardship.

But the conviction of an offence involving fraud or other dishonesty or violence was only a precondition on which the director's powers could be exercised. He still had to consider whether the carry on estate agency work.

Thus the past conviction was not itself determinative of disqualification. It was not inconceiv-able that Parliament clearly regarded conviction in the past as so contradictive of the protection of the public in the future that the director ought not to have the such conviction was proved.

Taking account of those factors his Lordship was satisfied that the judge was right to hold that the word "conviction" included conviction before the passing of the Act. He could see no ground for confining "conviction" so that a conviction outside the United

Lord Justice Kennedy and Lord Justice Aldous agreed.

Solicitors: Bray Walker; Trea-

LSD sentencing guidelines

Regina v Hurley Before Lord Bingham of Cornhill, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Mantell and Mr Justice Dyson Judgment July 28

Guidance for sentencing in cases of possession of lysergic acid diethylamide was laid down when judgment was given by the Court of Appeal reducing a sentence of 14 vears imprisonment imposed at outhwark Crown Court by Judge Rivlin on Joseph Robert Hurley who had pleaded guilty to possessing a class A drug with intent to supply, contrary to section 4(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 Police had seized 319 sheets of

paper impregnated with LSD and divisible into quarter-inch squares, yielding 280,000 units, and representing one of the largest seizures of LSD in many years. At about £3.75 for a unit the projected receipts exceeded £1,000,000. About eight grams of LSD had been used for the 319 sheets and the average LSD content of the squares was 31 micrograms. The appeal against sentence was

brought by leave of the single

Mr Rudi Fortson, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Miss Louise Kamill for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that their Lordships had been asked in the course of the appeal, to give guidance on the appro-priate levels of sentencing in LSD

The Court of Appeal had expressly declined to do that in R v Aranguren (The Times June 28, 1994; (1995) 16 Cr App R (S) 211, 216) but had revised previous sentenc-ing for unlawful importation of heroin and cocaine so as to relat the level of sentencing to the quantity of the drugs at 100 per

cent purity.

Their Lordships proposed to accede to the invitation to give some guidance in the present appeal. It was not for their Lordships to draw distinctions between different class A drugs.

In their Lordships' judgment, in the case of 25,000 or more quarter-inch squares or dosage units the sentence should in the ordinary case be 10 years plus. For 500,000

or more dosage units the sentence should ordinarily be 14 years plus. In each case their Lordships assumed that the dosage unit was of approximately 50 micrograms content pure LSD. Adjustment might be needed when it was

> Where the seizure was of tablets or crystals in a form which enabled a precise weight to be ascertained readily and easily there should be no problem in calculating the number of 50 microgram doses.

shown to vary significantly from

case the appropriate sentence

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said Power to make order despite opposition

Structures and Computers Ltd v Ansys Inc Before Mr Justice Neuberger Judgment August 22 Where it was satisfied that there

was a real prospect of an admin-istration order achieving its proposed purposes, the court had jurisdiction to make such an order over a company pursuant to section 8 of the Insolvency Act 1986 despite the opposition of more than half in value of the creditors.

Mr Justice Neuberger so held in the Chancery Division when granting an application by Structures and Computers Ltd for an administration order against the opposition of Ansys Inc. holders of more than half the company's unsecured debt. Section 8 of the 1986 Act pro

vides: "(1) Subject to this section, if the court — (a) is satisfied that a company is or is likely to become unable to pay its debts ... and (b) considers that the making of an order under this section would be likely to achieve one or more of the purposes mentioned below, the court may make an administration order in relation to the company. . . (3) The purposes for whose achievement an administration

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winding up, and the order shall specify the purpose of purposes for vhich it is made." Mr Alan Gourgey for the ap-plicant; Mr L Tamlin for the

main creditor, contended that in the light of the evidence the company could not satisfy the court that the making of an order would be likely to achieve any of the purposes listed in section S(3).

company's case was that at least primarily the order was justified under subsections 8(3)(a) and (d). Ansys argued that it was owed more than 50 per cent of the company's outstanding unsecured debts and would therefore be in a position to defeat any proposal put forward by the administrators by virtue of the provisions of rules 1.17 and 1.19 of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925). It had indicated it

MR JUSTICE NEUBERGER.

referring to section 8 of the 1986 Act, was satisfied the company was unable to pay its debts. Ansys, the In deciding the issue, his Lord-

ship proposed to apply the test laid down by Mr Justice Hoffmann in In re Harris Simons Construction Ltd ([1989] I WLR 368, 371), namely whether there was a real prospect that one or more of the stated

purposes might be achieved. The the instant case put forward as a

was likely to vote against any proposal of the liquidator. Mr Tamlin had referred to Re SCL Building Services Ltd ([1990] BCLC 98) and Re Land and Property Trust Co ple (No 2) [1991] BCLC 849) to support the propo-sition that the court should not make an administration order where the majority of creditors indicated in advance that they opposed its being made. He had also relied on Re Arrows Ltd (No 3) (1992) BCLC 555, 560).

His Lordship concluded that. despite Ansys's clear opposition. he did have jurisdiction to make an administration order. Unlike SCL Building Services and Land and Property Trust Co plc (No 2). the voluntary arrangement was not in major purpose and it was certainly nut a necessary purpose for the making of the administration order. Re Arrows Ltd (No. 3) had not involved section 8(3)(d).

If the administrator were to come forward with proposals under section S(3)(a) or (d) and a substantial number of creditors supported those proposals but the majority opposed, it would still be open to the administrator to apply to the court for those proposals to be implemented. There were grounds for believ-

ing that Ansys' attitude to the proposal of an administration might be based not so much on its interests as a creditor of the company but more from the indirect commercial benefit which it perceived it might obtain if the company went into liquidation as opposed to administration. In addition there were allega-

tions about possible misappropriation of money, charging of assets and the company's relations with landlord. The administrator would be obliged to investigate some of those allegations. Solicitors: Finers; Edge &

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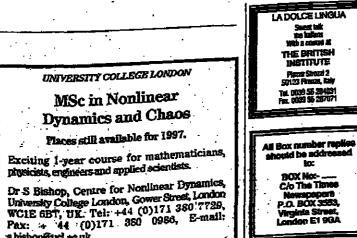
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An Open Letter from the Shepway Council of Headteachers.

Dear Mr Blair and Mr Blunkett, Is this consultation?

The Shepway Council of Headteachers is a long-standing association which includes all primary, secondary and special schools (Local Authorty and Grant Maintained) in the Folkestone and District Area of South Kent.

We have concerns about the Government's White Paper,

curriculum structure impeding standards

 school budgets impeding standards disparity of funding impeding standards

volume of change impeding standards

We have tried to arrange direct contract but have failed to get anyone to talk to us. We have been led to believe that you wish to enable

Headteachers to raise standards. Are you really listening to what we have to say? The Shipway Council of Headiteachers

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Today a dream comes true for 16 amateur golfers. Geoff Harwood introduces Europe's biggest pro-am tournament

1996 winners Ged Furey and Geoff Wilson: 110,000 amateurs were striving to emulate them this year

Steady hands needed as the cameras whirr

the surroundings at The Belfry, home of the Professional Golfers' Association (PGA), are as familiar to Doug Macdonald as the clubs in his bag. A businessman whose company shines the PGA's family silver, he played his first tentative strokes on the lush fairways of the Brabazon course before it was pitched to prominence by the Ryder

Such close proximity with the rise and rise of European golf did not immediately rub off, for it is ald has progressed to a respectable

Yet in the Algarve in the coming days, against the disconcerting whir of television cameras, Macdonald and Mike Passmore, the professional at his present club, Drayton Park — little more than a Tiger's drive from his old stamping ground — will tee off in the grand final of Europe's biggest pro-am tournament, the Lombard Top

Club Trophy.

After the first-class success of the Ryder Cup, it is the turn of golf's club class to take the spotlight at San Lorenzo, less than a decade old yet already considered to be among the three finest courses on the Continent. For five days 16 pro-am pairs from across Britain and Ireland will be pampered like the professionals of the PGA European

The scale of the tournament, in only its third year, can be measured by the decision of Lombard, the country's largest finance house, to invest a further £1.5 million to take the Top Club Trophy to the sponsorship and a business issue. Sport does capture the imagination people inside and outside the company." Stewart Legg, the group chief executive, says.

As winter turned to spring — with 110,000 amateur hopefuls from 1,100 clubs setting off on a series of qualifying rounds leading

Lombard only have dreamt of the pine-clad paradise at San Lorenzo. "It is certainly the biggest sporting event I have ever been involved in."

WITH THE PGA

Today, a party of 120 players, members of the back-up team and the cameras that will film the tournament, to be shown on Sky Sports on October 14, will be transported via TAP Air Portugal to their billet at the five-star Hotel

Macdonald says. "Anything of this proportion is quite

mind-boggling. I have got to know a

lot of people at my

one is rooting for us.

Everyone is pulling

Dona Filipa, at Vale do Lobo.

After a rigorous round of practice the grand final, played over 36 holes of better-ball medal play across two days, tees off on Sunday. nearly E22,000, is £4,000 for the winand a chance to win a Peugeot 106 for a hole in one at the par-three 5th — with golf clubs for his amateur partner.

For the PGA, the trophy is an opportunity to nurture golf's grass roots, encouraging people to take up the game,

with the backing of Lombard, a player of such stature in the finance field that it advances £115 million to its customers every week. Sandy Jones, executive director of the PGA explains: "The game of golf is about enjoyment and what we are trying to do with Lombard is to ensure that the club player has a wonderful golfing

experience. Everyone will have been thrilled watching the Ryder Cup and now it



Legg, left, and Jones seal the future of the trophy until the year 2000

handicaps and a tremendously wide range of backgrounds."

which chu wike the wraccur

The first professional to appear in two consecutive grand finals, Marcus Groombridge, was driven by the powerful desire to return to San Lorenzo this year. "It is a tremendous tournament. It gives the club players the chance of being on television and there are some very good players every year," he says. The advantages to his club, Slinfold Park, in West Sussex, have been tangible. "From an advertising point of view, it has been of

hile the watchword of the Lombard event is its friendliness, the competition remains intense. The attention to detail of one of the professionals. Graham Bradley, of Blankney Golf Club. near Lincoln, is such that he will join the party from Valderrama, where he has been garnering knowledge that may be of use to him and his partner, Tony Rollitt,

in the days ahead.

Macdonald, the joint-managing director of Target Cleaning plc—
once a month the PGA ask us to clean the trophies but not the Ryder Cup, that is locked away" - has been grooving his swing under the watchful eye of his professional. The nerves will come, he is in no doubt, under the glare of the cameras, but he believes that they have a chance of victory in Drayton Park's centenary year. Mike and I are playing every morning this week, "Macdonald said. "Mike will club me and read the greens and as he has played San Lorenzo a few times, that will help."

Some time after 3pm on Monday, Stewart Legg will say a few words and present the winners with the Lombard Top Club Trophy. Macdonald and his fellow competitors are hoping that, at San Lorenzo, the most polished performance will have been theirs.

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Glittering gem of the Algarve

San Lorenzo allows little

margin for error, Mel Webb says

an Lorenzo is truly the jewel in the magnificent tiara of exceptional golf courses that stud the Algarve coastline. It has been in existence for less than ten years. vet in that time it has achieved a place in a list of the top 100 golf courses in the world, and is ranked second in Europe.

The competitors in the Lombard event will be tested by this lay-out, designed by Joseph Lee, the leading American architect, and opened in 1988. There is not a hole that can be taken for granted; it is a thinker's course, one that needs sharp skills to negotiate the 6,824 yards it measures

from the championship tees. Most of the course weaves its sinuous way through the pine woods that are the feature of nearly all of the Algarve's golfing terrain. It also opens up in places to reveal awesome views of the ocean and the

A large part of the course is almost an extension of the beautiful estuary of the Ria Formosa, with fairways running alongside saltwater marshes and freshwater lagoons. The protected environ-ment is the home for more than 70 species of birds. There can be few more spectacular places to play the Royal and Ancient game than here.

The course wastes no time in laying out its credentials. The first hole is 540 yards long, a right-to-left dogleg par-five which has bunkers on the elbow to catch the wayward tee-shot. The drive having been negotiated, the second shot weaves its way up a gently uphill valley which then bears right for the approach to

Taken in isolation it is demanding enough. But compared with what is to come, it is relatively undemanding, and therefore serves its purpose of instilling a false sense of security.

From there things get tough er. The 6th. one of the signature holes of the course, is both demanding and dramatic, an elevated tee looking down to the fairway with the estuary. sand dunes and ocean beyond. It is absolutely vital here to hit the fairway. There is no for-



The beauty of San Lorenzo is a powerful incentive to players battling through early rounds

giveness on the left or right and water awaits the overambitious drive.

The 8th, a magnificent parfive of 575 yards, turns inland, bordering one of the inland lakes, which snake into the fairway to define the second and third shots. The length of the second shot will decide how much of the lagoon has to be taken on for the third.

You will not walk a pace around San Lorenzo without being made to think, to concentrate on the next shot. There is nowhere to bale out of trouble, nowhere where it is possible to take the timid line. What you see here is what you get, and it is trouble - albeit trouble surrounded by beauty - from first shot to last.

Lombard Top Club Trophy Grand Final 3-7 October 1997

San Lorenzo, Portugal Lombard acknowledges with thanks the splendid support provided by



LA FA

to topether

lain Davidson

4 Leigh

Andrew Bagutes

5 Prestwich

Ameteur: Gooff Anderson

Arnateur: Peter Solski

Amateur: Tony Rollitt

Amateur: Leo Russell

7 Slade Valley

Professional: Simon Wakefiel

Professional: Graham Bradle

Professionat John Dignam

Professional: Mike Passmore

Lombard Top Club Trophy

one shot and had Donnison's

a six-under par 66. With

tional, albeit that he is the

final, the pair are capable of

performing well.

birdie on the last hole to thank for

Lucan's reasonable handicap and

Donnison's experience as a for-

mer England schoolboy interna-

youngest competitor in the grand

WORLDHAM PARK

Professional: Jon Le Roux, 25.

Amateur: Peter Skidmore, 29,

Roux was the 1996 Hampshire

(PGA) matchplay champion.

That and the fact that he has

played the San Lorenzo course

six-under par 63 in the regional

final at Sundridge Park, in good

stead. Skidmore only took the

because he was picking up too

many injuries in rugby union.

game up three years ago —

should stand this team, who had a

club steward, 8 handicap.

The South African-born Le

Amateur: Doug Macdonald

Which club will strike the ball most accurately?

Diamond cutters, plumbers, computer programmers and managers ... Christopher Irvine assesses the 32 finalists

CEACION

Professional: Stuart Amateur: Paul Atkinson, 33. bricklayer, 18 handicap.

Atkinson has the highest handicap of the grand final amateur qualifiers. but this did not prevent himself and Levermore, club professional for 17 years, from winning their regional final at Enfield. "It's fantastic to reach the final. Stuart and I just clicked," Atkinson, whose non-golfing passion is motorbikes, said.

SEADE VALLES

Professional: John Dignam, Amateur: Leo Russell, 54, diamond cutter, 12 handicap.

Irish hopes are carried by this combination, who survived a strong field at County Louth. Russell is the oldest competitor in the field — his golfing life began at 40. "We're going out to win." he said. Dignam added: "We did well to qualify when only one team from Ireland goes through. The club's behind us and the captain is hoping to cheer.

Amateur: Danny Hicks, 25, leisure manager, 5 handicap.

Last-gasp victors at King's Nor-ton, Craik, a former Scotland international, and Hicks, who shares the joint lowest handicap of the amateurs, form a powerful combination. In the regional final. Hicks holed a 50ft putt to win the penultimate game. He took up the sport nine years ago. Craik

DRATTCHTANK

played the San Lorenzo course.

Professional: Mike Passmore,

Amateur: Doug Macdonald, 46, managing director, 13

Macdonald has already had his hands on the Lombard Top Club Trophy. His firm are contract cleaners for the PGA at The Belfry. The regional final win at Beau Desert was his first. "This is a chance of a lifetime." he said... Passmore has been club profes sional for 24 years and is another man familiar with the Por-



The Lombard Trophy and the pair who won it last year, Ged Furey and Geoff Wilson, from the Pleasington club

Professional: Marcus Amateur: Neil Jones, 41, com-

pany director, 11 handicap.

Groombridge, former England schoolboy international and member of the Mastercard Tour for two seasons, finished 12th in last year's grand final, and with a new partner in Jones, who has only been playing golf for six years, is hoping to finish higher. The pair booked their final ticket with a six-under par 66 at

Professional: Chris DeBruin,

Chartham Park. .

Hartle, the amateur partner of the Basingstoke duo, has an inter-

national sporting pedigree. He

Amateur: John Hartle, 44, general manager, 17 handicap.

represented Singapore at rugby union and cricket and came to golf late at 39. DeBruin has been club professional for 23 years and appeared on the Tour in the Seventies. He played in a pro-am at San Lorenzo in February. If John and I can link as we did in the regional final at Test Valley,

THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

Professional: David Sheppard Amateur: Lee Scott, 29, car

sales executive, 17 handicap. We're going feeling confident and looking for at least a top three

place," Sheppard, a member of the European Tour in the Eighties. said. Il-under-par at Exeter, the pair carded the best score of all the grand finalists. Scott gave the game up after winning a junior event but has come back strongly and still plays with the irons given to him as a boy.

we've a good chance," he said.

BLANKNEY Professional: Graham Brad-

ley. 42. Amateur: Tony Rollitt. 44. plumber, 12 handicap.

Bradley has travelled to San Lorenzo direct from Valderrama and is hoping that something of Europe's Ryder Cup triumph will have rubbed off. He is an experienced pro-am campaigner and Rollitt puts his performance in the regional final at Kedlestone Park down to the refinements to his swing by Bradley.

WHOTLEY BAY

Professional: Gary Donnison,

Amateur: Andrew Lucan, 33, computer programmer, 8

The pair won on the testing Pannal course near Harrogate by

THE FINALISTS AND THE

CLUBS THEY REPRESENT

AT SAN LORENZO

Amateur: Tom Mathieson, 35, machine setter, 11 handicap.

UPHALL

The West Lothian pair were among the most impressive of all the regional final victors. Despite driving rain at Longniddry in June, they roared home on the inward nine to record a 64. Little wonder then that Law is confident they can do well in Portugal,

WHITECRAIGS

Professional: Alastair Forrow.

Amateur: Iain Davidson, 31,

project manager, 5 handicap. Forrow has already won one prize already this year - a car for a hole in one — and has his sights set on the Peugeot 106 for the player at San Lorenzo who manages the feat at the short fifth. In Davidson, he has an in-form partner, who shares the best handicap of the amateurs. They

BURGHILL VALLEY

Professional: Nigel Clarke, 33. Amateur: Paul Moses, 28. company team leader, 6 handicap.

Clarke, club professional for two years, enjoyed his first tournament win in the regional final. in harness with Moses, who is making his first trip abroad for the grand final. As well as a passport, he must remember to clean his clubs. The last time he used them was in the regional final victory at Puckrup Hall.

WESTON PARK

Professional: Michael Few. 33.

Professional: Nigel Clarke

9 Burghill Valley

Amateur: Paul Moses

Professional: Michael Few Amateur: Rod Main

Professional: Derek Craik Jr

Amateur: Danny Hicks 12 Clacton-on-Sea

Professional: Stuart Levermon Amateur: Paul Atkinson

13 Tylney Park Professional: Chris DeBruin

14 Worldham Park Professional: John Le Roux

Peter Skidmore

Professional: Marcus Groombridge Amateur: Neil Jones

Professional: David Sheppard

Amateur: Lee Scott

Amateur: Rod Main, 31, senior analyst, 6 handicap.

Few was a European Tour player for three years and has represented England and Great Britain. He has experience of Portugal having played once in the Portuguese Open. Main is club chairman and boasts having played 108 holes in a day. Their regional final success came at

PRESTWICH

Professional: Simon Wakefield, 32.

Amateur: Peter Solski, 42, hotel golf course manager, 13 handicap.

In a tight finish to the regional final at Northorp, Wakefield and Solski defied driving rain and a trio of pairs on 68 to complete a winning 67. five under par. In his profession Solski gets the opportunity to practise and he has managed a few more hours than

LEIGH qualified at Buchanan Castle.

Amateur: Geoff Anderson, 51, gas fitter, 10 handicap.

Baguley, eight years the professional at Leigh, represented Great Britain in the 1994 PGA Cup in Florida. The pair's experience saw them triumph in the regional fi-nal at Hesketh and Anderson is glad simply to have reached the climax to the competition in Portugal. "It helps playing with a perfectionist like Andrew," he said.

♠ A report of the final will be published in The Times on Tuesday. • Keep up to date with the fi-

nal by calling the freephone number 0800 801 429.

In sport Lombard has developed a broad sponsorship portfolio, from junior cricket to golf to rowing. John Goodbody reports

Pulling together and making a splash in sport

ombard has a long and distinguished record in sponsorship. It has stretched across 24 years and several sports and has developed and assisted both elite performers and grass-

As Stewart Legg, the group chief executive, says: "We don't just pay and walk away. As an active participant in sports sponsorship for many years, we have a real appreciation of what it takes to make sponsorship work and we use that knowledge to target our promotional resources for maximum

Since Lombard is the United Kingdom's foremost supplier of motor finance, rallying was a natural choice when the group first started sponsorship in 1974, linking up with the RAC. The Lombard RAC Rally established itself as highly professional, dramatically increasing public awareness and enjoyment of the sport, and setting the standard for other international

By 1992, Lombard decided to withdraw from rally sponsorship because it wanted to promote the name and image of Lombard to a wider business audience. The group's activities had expanded extensively with Lombard also becoming the leading supplier of asset finance in the United Kingdom, providing contract hire and leasing facilities for everything from mainframes to medical equipment and trucks to tractors. Golf was the platform that Lombard was seeking. The sport, which attracts a large number of business people, provides an ideal way to put Lombard's name before a wide

variety of emerprises. Lembard decided that the best



way of contributing to amateur golfers' enjoyment of the sport was to create a high quality, pro-am event in which any club member

could participate. In 1995, the first year of the tournament. Lombard set itself an. entry target of 650 clubs, regarded as wildly over-optimistic by some commentators. In fact, by ensuring that the tournament was packaged as a leading event, from initial club mailings to the management of the five day grand final at the huming an even wider audience. It decided Cous San Lorenzo Golf Club, Lom- to link up with Steve Redgrave and

bard-attracted 850 entries in 1995; rising to 1,000 clubs in 1996 and more than 1,100 in 1997. Within three years, the Lombard Top Club Trophy has become the largest event of its type in Europe and is billed as the premier pro-am in the

calendar of the Professional Golf-Having launched Lombard Direct, a 24-hour telephone loan service for the personal finance market, the group wanted to reach

Marthew Pinsent, whose Olympic gold medal rowing successes blended naturally with Lombard's "No I brand image". Redgrave said: "Without Lom-

bard's support. I wouldn't be going for my fifth successive gold medal at the Sydney 2000 Olympics." The sponsorship has extended to the pair's new rowing partners, Tim Foster and James Cracknell. The unbeaten duo of Redgrave and Pinsent have demonstrated this year that they are fast as successful in a four as they were in a coxless

pair, taking the world title last month. The Lombard name has been prominent in coverage at the World Cup championships. and world

t is not only the elite that has attracted Lombard, however. In 1996, the group supported the first-ever international cricket tournament for 15-year-olds. Junior sporting events rarely achieve a high profile, so the decision was based on a combination of passion for the game in high places and the

fact that Lombard's community investment programme is biased towards development in young

> With the English Schools' Cricket Association acting as host, the Lombard World Challenge was a huge success, with more than 10,000 people watching the final at Lord's between India and Pakistan. Lombard received the Institute of Sports Sponsorship award for the best new sponsorship for 1996.

Legg believes that Lombard's active involvement in the manage-

ment and promotion of sponsorships, which carry their brand is essential. "Sponsorship isn't just about brand awareness.lt also says something about the brand's values. We take care that every detail says Lombard is 'No I' in every sense of the word."

It is an approach that pays dividends. Tod Evans, director, Commercial Operations, Peugeot Motor Company plc, says of the trophy: "Everything about this tournament reflects why, we do .. business with Lombard.

Lewis prepares to press for respect

ANDREW GOLOTA is a man to be avoided by those fainthearted heavyweights who take up a career in the division simply to cash in on one big challenge for a world title. He is strong, technically capable and has a volatile temperament - yet he is the best thing that has happened to Lennox

Certainly, a contest with the Pole makes good commercial sense for the World Boxing Council (WBC) champion. After Golota was disqualified twice in contests with Riddick Bowe, the former champion from the United States and once Lewis's greatest rival. there is public demand to see how he will fare against the Briton. As a result, Lewis stands to make a lot of money - around \$10 million - from the bout being broadcast on pay-per-view television. Frank Maloney, his manager, said: "If he can get 400,000 buys, it's a home run." The show is expected to pull in 700,000

paying home customers in the United States at \$40 a time. Yet Lewis, perhaps because of his distinguished amateur career, is more interested in titles than money. He wants to be recognised as the best heavyweight in the world. although to earn such acclaim could prove more difficult than becoming the undisputed world heavyweight champion. If Lewis deleats Golota, he will still have to convince the American press of his abilities. a critical group that, having known the golden age of Muhammed Ali, is hard to please. Only Larry Holmes has come up to its standards.

British heayweights have always been considered a joke, horizontal champions, by American boxing writers. They do not remember the heroic efforts of Tommy Farr. only the pathetic attempts of Brian London and Richard

ALAN McMANUS avenged a

painful defeat by beating Peter Ebdon, the holder, 6-3 in a

quarter-final of the Regal Scot-

rish Masters at Motherwell

McManus, as aware of the

frame's potential psychologi-

cal impact as his opponent, eventually fluked the black off

two cushions to edge 3-2 ahead, and then, without

putting together any contribu-

pocket.

Dunn against Ali. Indeed, in a reappraisal of the heavy-weight scene that followed the suspension of Mike Tyson after he bit Evander Holyfield earlier this year, the Los Angeles Times did not even name Lewis as a contender.

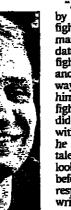
USA Today, shows what a difficult task Lewis has before him. Saraceno said: "Lewis is the heavyweight champion of hesitancy. In the ring, only Michael Moorer exceeds his leeriness for combat. Truth is, Lewis didn't care for a long time. No determination, no commitment. He preferred partying in his native Jamaica to pushing himself. He changed trainers the way Mike Tyson changes Gucci loafers. He found Emanuel

Steward [his trainer], but is it Maloney remains pessimis-



Meeting a high profile heavyweight like Golota has given Lewis a chance to make the Americans take a proper look at him. If he gives a worthy performance, he could one day become the first British heavyweight to gain recognition as the genuine article on this side of the

The view of Jon Saraceno, of



Golota: testing

Steward is convinced that if Lewis looks good against Golota, the American public will warm to him. "The American public needs a fight against a creditable fighter. Steward said. "Golota is such fighter. Lennox has the talent to take British boxing to a level beyond where it has ever been. He fights to the

best out of him. "If Lennox ever comes out and quits being analytical - I don't like him playing these chess games — there's no heavyweight in the world to stop him. The American public likes bad guys. Golota is a bad guy and so this is Lewis' chance to prove himself to the Americans."

level of his competition and

Golota is the man to bring the

Dino Duva, the head of Main Events, which promotes Lewis in the United States. said that Lewis had made some mistakes in his behaviour towards the American press and had given them the impression that he was arrogant and aloof, but he believed that this fault had been brought home to Lewis by Steward and he expects things look brighter for the

'Also, Lennox has been hurt by the fights he has had to fight," he said. "Court fights, mandatory fights after man-datory fights, vacant title fights and it's all taken a year and a half to get out of the way. All this has not helped him.They were not the best fights in the world and he didn't get the coverage. Now, with this fight against Golota. he will be able to show his talents and I promise you if he looks good, it won't be long before he starts getting the respect of American boxing writers. They have been slow to show respect but things are



Lewis, mindful of Golota's habit of punching low, adopts extra protection yesterday

tomorrow, will be supported

for the next four years by Carlsberg-Tetley. The brew-

ing company is understood to

be putting some £7 million

into rugby, including not only

the senior and junior cup

competitions but the county

championship at senior and

Pilkington, the glass com-

pany, withdrew from a three-

year agreement worth El.1

million during the summer, it

had sponsored the cup from

1988 but opted out after only

ment. The competition will

now be known as the Tetley's

Bitter Cup, with a prize fund in excess of £750,000 this

season, which will be in-

creased during the next four

years to more than El million.

The cup winners will get £50,000, the losers £35,000.

has lost his appeal against a

last month.

Tony Rees, the Cardiff lock,

one season of the latest agree

under-21 levels.

RUGBY UNION

Home comforts | England's busy diary gives Brittle cause for concern

By David Hands, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

the scoreboard in the eighth frame. On this occasion though, Ebdon's rally proved to be brief. Battling it out in the kind of scrappy frame in which he so

yesterday. However, the often revels, McManus, withmatch turned in his favour on out a trophy success since the an outrageous slice of good Thailand Open in March fortune. 1996, won the ninth to secure a Breaks of 66 and 69 gave meeting with John Higgins or Ebdon a 2-1 lead but McManus, bitterly disap-Ronnie O'Sullivan in the semifinals tomorrow.

McManus, who lives only a pointed after losing to him in

SNOOKER

spur McManus

By Phil Yates

the final of the same tournaleisurely 20-minute drive from ment 12 months ago, drew the venue, said: "I have not level at 2-2 with a break of 119 played well for some time, but - his 90th century break in professional competition. being in your own backyard The fifth frame, which ultireally helps. mately proved pivotal, was

"I am also comfortable in this sort of environment because I like playing the less clear cut. Ebdon cleared from the last red to pink, only game's better players. I have never been frightened of to miss a tricky black using the rest, and two shots later a them. much simpler pot to a middle

☐ The Team Gdeez Capital Management Stable, headed by Ian Doyle, the manager of Stephen Hendry, the world No I, welcomed a new addition to their line-up yesterday when Anthony Hamilton, the world No 14, from Nottingham, signed a three-year

rions of significance, established a 5-2 advantage. Ebdon has developed a de-served reputation for recover-Doyle, who also signed O'Sullivan during the close season, now manages 17 pro-fessionals, including Ken ing from such positions, and McManus must have begun to experience a sense of con-Doherty, the world champion. and nine members of the cern when Ebdon duly prevented him from getting on game's elite top 16.

THE Rugby Football Union (RFU) will press for a reduction in the number of international matches played in the pre-Christmas period next season. The RFU, worried that supporters will find the com-

mitments this season indigest-

ible, will propose to northern-

hemisphere colleagues a diet of three matches at most. Cliff Brittle, the RFU management board chairman, arrived at a Twickenham briefing yesterday on the heels of a technical exposition that showed players going over the top illegally in loose play. Brittle promptly agreed that his predecessors in office had also gone over the top by arranging four international matches on consecutive Satur-

days in November-December. England play New Zealand twice, Australia and South Africa in that period and Brittle said: "I think it is too much, for the players, for the clubs and for the whole game. We are receiving complaints from all sections of the game and we are talking to other unions to try to bring some consistency over interationals.

"I would like to arrange with other northern-hemisphere unions a window of five weekends before Christmas, during which each union agreed to play no more than

their five nations' championstand, France play five internationals this autumn (includship matches and the game with New Zealand at Old ing three in eight days during Trafford on November 22, but the Latin Cup). England four. Ireland three and Wales and they were able to confirm that the knockout competition, the second round of which is Roger Uttley, the England

team manager, agreed that the existing schedule "errs on the side of overkill", though he and Clive Woodward, the coach, seek to expose England's leading players to regular examinations by teams from the southern hemisphere. "We need to challenge them on a regular basis if we are going to improve and challenge for the top prize — the World Cup." Uttley said.

The RFU is close to agreements over sponsorship of



Ijaz proves Pakistan's inspiration

AN unbeaten innings of 139 by Ijaz Ahmed inspired Pakistan to a nine-wicket victory against India in the third and final one-day international in Lahore yesterday, securing the the series 2-1

IN BRIEF

India were all out for 216 in 49.2 overs. Pakistan, with Iiaz opening the batting, reached the target in only 26.2 overs for the loss of one wicket in the only day-night encounter of the series. It was the first series between the traditional rivals to be played in Pakistan for eight years.

FOOTBALL: The parent com-pany of Queens Park Rangers and Wasps rugby union club has confirmed that it is investigating a move to a new site along the M4 corridor as well as the possibility of expanding Loftus Road, the clubs' present ground.

GOLF: Toni Wiesner, a lefthander from Texas, won the British senior ladies' open championship at the first attempt at Frilford Heath yesterday after leading from the start. A 54-hole total of 231 gave Wiesner a five-stroke victory over Valerie Hasset, the defending champion.

FOOTBALL: Anthony Bird, 90-day suspension imposed by ten, from Doncaster, has been given a five-month suspended ban by the Football Associ-European Rugby Cup Ltd after he was found to have stamped on Gareth Llewellvn. ation after being sent off for swearing and hitting out in an the Harlequins forward, during the Heineken Cup match under-il match.

HOCKEY

Foreign influx adds spice to domestic scene

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

the Junior World Cup at Milton Keynes, where Enland's under-21 team finished fourth, the focus of start of the National League

season on Sunday.

At the end of the campaign in May, 16 players will be on their way to Utrecht, in Holland, for the World Cup, an event in which England finished fourth in Sydney in 1994. Training commitments for the World Cup will place an added strain on the players, but to ease the pres premier and first division lubs will not join the Hockey Association Cup until the with round.

The influx of foreign players, notably from South Africa and Canada, has added extra flavour to the league. Greg Nicol, South Africa's centre forward, who, with Bram Lomans, of Holland, was joint top scorer with seven goals at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, has joined Surbiton.

The Surrey club are eager to regain their place in the premier division after being relegated, along with

Havant, last season. Craig O'Hagan and Gregor Maier, two other South Africans, have joined Southgate. Reading, the premier division champions, have recruited the Canadian, Mark Bartholomew from British Columbia, and in midweek their ranks were swelled by Ranjeev Doel,

Old Loughtonians, who have lost Julian Halls to the Dutch club HDM, have two an Myburgh, the South African goalkeeper, and Scott Smith, of Canada. Mike Cullen, of South Africa, returns to the first division club, Chelmsford, for joined by three of his compatriots, Justin King, a deep defender, David Stanforth, an under-21 goalkeeper, and Michael Carr, a skilful midfield player.

On the home front, David Mathews, who distinguished himself at the Ju- not recovered from injury.

AFTER the excitement of nior World Cup as a shortcorner specialist, has moved from Guildford to Canterbury, who also have Sean Kerly, the former Great Britain centre-forward, on their playing list. Alistair Boyse, another prominent forward from the England Under-21 team, has left East Grinstead to join Lewes in the First Division.

mil helper

Brett Garrard, who was captain of the England team Guildford, but at present is listed as unattached.

Reading will travel onSunday to Doncaster, who earned promotion to the premier division, along with Beeston, Alan Stoves, the Doncaster player-coach knows that the game represents a daunting baptism for his side, but said: 'If you are going to test yourself, you might as well do so against the best.

However, Doncaster may be relieved to learn that they



Pearn: deserved rest

will not have to contend with Mark Pearn, the England Under-21 centre for ward. He and Manpree Kochar, another member of the England junior team, have been given a well-

The senior England internationals, Simon Mason, in goal, and Jon Wvatt. are making the trip to Doncaster, but Reading will also be without Mark Hoskin, who has gone abroad, and his brother Howard, who has

Hightown driven by Carr's U-turn

LINDA CARR'S retirement and gives the side stability. lasted 132 days. Given a stirring send-off after High-inished getting everyone to town's cup final triumph at Milton Keynes in May, the former England and Great Britain captain will return to action tomorrow after being included in the Hightown team to play Ipswich (Cathy

Harris writes). "I never thought I'd miss it," said Carr, 41, who made more than 100 international appearances. "But I watched the season's opening match and it was really difficult

standing on the sideline."

Tina Cullen, the captain, said that although Carr may not start the match her presence in the young Hightown squad is myainable. "Age is completely ir-relevant." Cullen, the league's ali-time leading "She's still a superb player

sign her retirement card, so we presented it to her at training on Wednesday!"

Annalisa Bishop, Maria Hardiman, Kate Hendrick. Josie Kelsa, Nicky O'Donnell and Kate Walsh, all schoolgirl internationals, are competing for places along-side Highdown's prominent England internationals, Cullen and the in-form goalkeeper, Carolyn Reid.

Ipswich who trail the champions. Slough, on goal difference at the top of the table, recorded their best result last season when they won the corresponding fix-ure 6-1. Missing two key players, Sarah Bamfield and Debbie Rawlinson, who are unavailable for business reasons, they may struggle to repeat that scoreline.

How long have you been dreaming about that to stretch your repayments to suit your budget. new car? Or that kitchen? Or that trip of a lifetime?

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RACING: SHEIKH HAMDAN PROFITS AS MORLEY PRODUCES NOTABLE DOUBLE AT NEWMARKET

Hayil helped by blinkered outlook

YOU need to be a fairly single-minded sort to have the final say in a bidding duel at 500,000 guineas, which is how Hamdan al-Maktoum secured a Diesis filly at the Houghton Sales in Newmarket on Wednesday evening. Up the road on the Rowley Mile yesterday, it did not take long for the sheikh to profit from a similarly blinkered approach.

Hayil, whose victory in the Thoroughbred Corporation Middle Park Stakes helped defray the mind-boggling ex-penses of one of the sale's biggest spenders, was transformed by a pair of blinkers. It was precisely the same ruse that had enabled Fard, likewise trained by David Morley for Sheikh Harndan, to win the 1994 running of a race that sometimes seems to cling to group one status by its finger-

tips.
The recent roll of honour does include Royal Applause, who competes for the sprint championship in the Prix de l'Abbaye at Longchamp on Sunday, and Rodrigo De-Triano. But yesterday's field had won just eight of their 26 races, three of them remaining maidens, and - while the sheikh feels that his Dayjur colt might stay an easy mile next year - the best that can be hoped is that the blinkers keep Hayil suitably combusti-

LINGFIELE

1.55 Braganza. 2.25 Means Business. 2.55 Jila. 3.30

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.55 JILA (nap).

1.55 EBF BLOND MCINDOE MAIDEN STAKES

(2-Y-O: £3,556: 51) (6 runners)

GOING FIRM DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

-6 Braganza, 5-1 Missad The Cut, 6-1 kts May, 10-1 Newsia, 12-1 Royal Intendew, 6-1 Sections

1 (6) 5450 DEPMER CROSE 28 B Meetins 9-7 M Tentont 25
(13) 0 MCBLE PATROTI 24 R Hetisphicat 1-7 D Gelffitts 55 T3 (5) 0500 BLLE SHADOW 7-89 R Henora 9-3 P Dobber (7) 7-76
(7) 6033 CROCHITEER 39 J Berry 9-3 C Lowther 57 D.
(8) 1530 MFAHS BUSINESS 35 (B.C.) B Meetins 9-1 J Winson 3-9
(14) 0004 SERGEART 18P 7 P Hending 9-3 Peal Endings 25
(14) 0004 SERGEART 18P 7 P Hending 8-9 Depmer 78
(2) 1040 LASHAM 13 [F] N Latelphan 8-9 Cheryl Musworthy (7) 9
(6) OFFENHS MGHT R Simpson 8-9 J Eggan 19 Depmer 79
(11) 0055 SLB PROP 22 K (Pub 8-9 J Eggan 19 J Meetins 19 J Marin 19 J Marin 19 J Meetins 19 J Meetin

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSPS: D Loder, 19 winners from 54 miners, 35.2%; J Goston, 17; from 69, 24.5%, M Prescott, 25 from 111, 22.5%; P Mooney, 4 from 19, 21.1%; Lard Harringdon, 49 from 241, 20.5%; J Beny, 33 from 163, 20.2%.

2.55 EBF BILLY LEVITA MAIDEN STAKES



Yesterday they enabled him to take it up two out and hold the late challenge of Carrowkeel by threequarters of a times doesn't concentrate, like

at home, but he wasn't electrifying or anything — he's not the type to over-exert himself." The same should presumably be true of Morley, 58, who

you going."
Barry Hills reckoned

Carrowkeel would have won on easier ground, but Arkadian Hero, sent off at odds-on, could not muster a challenge in fourth - prompting Luca Cumani to conclude that he had not recovered from

the destination of his new yearlings, by teeing up Hayil's win with a listed-race success for Intikhab in the Heath Court Hotel Joel Stakes. Intikhab, completing a treble. won in taking style, but his task was simplified by the favourite, Bin Rosie, refusing

a radical Meanwhile. shake-up in betting practices at racecourses looks set to be imposed on bookmakers after protracted negotiations aimed at reaching an agreement broke down irrevocably yesterday.

The Racecourse Association (RCA), which has been increasingly frustrated by the outdated practices of oncourse bookmakers, yesterday terminated negotiations with the National Association of Bookmakers (NAB) and asked the Levy Board to use its powers to secure the introduction of a new administrative structure for racecourse pitches'.

The talks, aimed modernising the way bookmakers operate on course. began in 1991 and included proposals for computerised betting receipts for punters and allowing bookmakers into members' enclosures.

Angus Crichton-Miller chairman of the RCA, said yesterday. There comes a point at which protracted discussions have to stop. I set a deadline in early September for the resolution of the outstanding issues between the RCA and NAB, but we are still at odds over some fairly major issues. We will give every help to the Levy Board to bring a modern customer-friendly system to our racecourse betting rings as soon as is practicable."

NEWMARKET

2.05 Mons 2.35 Kayvee

3.05 Haami

3.40 Blewbury Hill

4.15 Lochangel 4.50 STRAZO (nap)

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.05 TRACKING,

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.05 Abreeze, 3,40 Silverani.

Represend number. Draw in Inscherts Str-figure form (F -- left P -- pulled up (II -- cneased date, B -- brought down S -- slapped up (II -- nebtsed, D -- discreptional), Horse's name (Date since less owing, I if jumps, F it list (B -- Britisher), V voc. II -- hood, E -- Systale(C -- course women D -- distance without CD --

tavourse in lateral race). Going on which horse such about (F -- farm, good to farm, hard. G -- good S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets Trainer: Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance

GOING GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.05 RACING POST GODOLPHIN STAKES

(Listed race: £11,601: 1m 4f) (4 runners) BETTING, 13-8 Mons, 7-4 Tr.s Fly, 3-1 Memorise, 8-1 Strays.

1996 BUSY RUGHT 3-9-11 M Holb (111-8 tax) 2 Holb 4 ran

Hons start head 2nd to Delenc in 14km group if You stake: 1900d), prevailed by 1941 3nd to Time Allowed in 14km Newmarks group it zaides (good to firm). Memorise 32 2nd to Bury Fight in 14km listed Donascter stakes (good). The Ry 3141 3nd to Silver Patranch in 14km Donascter Stages (good to firm) with Shaya (same terms). 111 7th THE FLY is taken to uphold classic form

2.35 CHARLES WELLS BOMBARDIER BITTER HANDICAP (£8.469: 71) (13 rotiners)

HANDICAP (£8,469 7f) (13 runners)

201 (5) 4005-P PRINCE OF MINA 90 (F.6); (56 Ecrotin Brusten) Lind Hustingdoo 5-9-7 L Dettori

202 (12) 5113-62 SERBATTY 79 (C.F) (in C WRIL); Fanchased 3-9-4 ... K Fatboo 134

203 (2) 5006124 CONCER UN 12 (6F,D.F.G.S) NASS L Ward, S C Williams 5-9-5 K Contey 107

204 (2) 5006124 CONCER UN 12 (6F,D.F.G.S) NASS L Ward, S C Williams 5-9-5 K Contey 107

205 (11) 5010000 TRIPLE HAY 30 (G) (Broadstate Partnership) R Hamon 3-8-13 Danc Fried 106

206 (3) 15-6403 BACHELORS PRO 20 (F) NASS D Allery W Jarnes 3-6-12 ... W Ryan 99

207 (9) 10025552 HAWART 20 (B.D.F) (id.) HAMARD B Halle 3-8-11 ... P Fessey (3) 97

208 (10) 310-254 ALL IS FARR 14 (BF) (Mex IX Reading) M Preson 3-8-9 & B Duffield 103

209 (4) 41-4132 AL MILALLEM 22 (F.G.) (Al Manham Partnership) J W Pryne 3-8-7 A McSlone 112

210 (8) 06033822 KAVWEE 6 (D.F.G.S.) (F.G.) (Al Manham Partnership) J W Pryne 3-8-7 A Clank 114

211 (15) 4000007 MARCHY SHARP 13 (G.D.F) (Ind Samphing) J W Batts 6-8-7 ... J Formar [223]

212 (1) 5210505 MR BERISERAC 13 (F.G.S.) (F.John) B Palling 6-8-7 ... J Sprake 112

213 (7) 313330 MR SPONKE 13 (D.F.) (P.Mekhmi I Batding 3-8-5 ... M Hills 111

Long handicag: Mr Bergera: 8-5, Mr Spouge 8-2 BETTMR: 11-2 Al Masken, 6-1 All Is Tar, Hawari, Machy Sharp, 7-1 Kaynes, 8-1 highborn, 10-1 Concer Un, 12-1 Bachelors Pad, 14-1 Serbnity 16-1 Mr Bergerac, Mr Spouge, 20-1 others 1996: HBGH90RN 7-8-10 W Ryon (25-1) P Felgate 12 ran

Highborn beal Concer Un (11b beiter off) neck in 7l Cheater bandicap (good to soft) with Mr Bergerac (5tb beiter off) 3Ni 5th Serently 3l 2nd to Impro in 7l Yamnouth filter stakes (good). Triple Hay 37l 12th to Double Action in 6l York handreap (good). Bachekors Pad 2Nil 3rd to Law Commission in 7l Goodwood handreap (good). Hawarf 9l 2nd to Russean Music in 1m Doncaster handreap (good) in 5l Newbury handreap (good). Al Musalim 9l 2nd to Safio in 7l Doncaster handreap (good in 5m). All Is Fair 4Nil 4th to Jonock in 7l Newbury handreap (good). Al Musalim 9l 2nd to Safio in 7l Doncaster handreap (good in firm). Madily Sharp 4941 11th to Wisdwood Flower in 6l Ayr handreap (good to soft). Mr Bergerac 3151 5th to Perrysion View in 6l Ayr handreap (good to soft).

AL MUALLEM can be renearded for some consistent efforts

3.05 SOMERVILLE TATTERSALL STAKES

(Listed race: 2-Y-O: £8,954: 7f) (8 runners) 1 ARBIETTE 17 (D.G.) /Godnichen S. bin Sozoor R-9 BETTING: 2-1 Abresze. 5-2 Bintang, 5-1 Hearn, Tracking, 7-1 lectuald. 14-1 An. En Provence, 33-1 others.

1996; GRAPESHOT 8-9 L Detion (5-4 lan) 1, Curran 8 ran FORM FOCUS Abreeze beal Dark Moondancer 51 in 71 Sandown mender (good) Aix En Provence beat Milwah 21/51 in 61 Report stakes (good to firm), Birtang beat Sty Rockel 11/61 in 61 Demoaster stakes (good to firm), cobend beat Title Bid 31 in 61 Goodwood stakes (61, good). Tracking 1/61 2 and to Lettle Indian in 71 group III Sandown stakes (good to soft) with Haami (some terms) 2/1 3nd TRACKING could offer some value against Abreeze and Bintang

3.40 JAMES LEVETT HANDICAR

(3-Y-O: £6,160: 1m 2l) (9 runners) (3-7-U: 10, 10U: 1111 21) (9 (URINERS)

401 (2) 22-12 SLVERANI 143 (BF.G) (F Sives) L Custom 9-7 ... K Darley

402 (4) 41-4448 DESERT HORIZON 63 (5) (K Abdula) J Gostom 9-6 ... L Deticel

403 (8) 01-3502 BTTYATI 20 (6) (8) 41-Meltonny J Dunlop 9-6 ... R Hills

404 (7) 22-3346 TITTA RUFFO 13 (0.01 (M Lambanchi B Melton 8-4 ... G Duffield

505 (1) -061115 FANTAIL 29 (0.F.5) (F Panica) Laby Malson of Saldbord M Tomplanc 8-2 M Henry (3)

406 (3) 3533107 KEWARRA 22 (0.F.6) (6 Panice) B Melton 8-1 ... T Sprake

407 (5) -500260 MY VALENTINA 5 (5) (0 Decr) B Hells 7-11 ... P Fessory (3)

408 (9) 3-33352 DEEP WAITER 77 (4 R H Prince Filed Saldborn) P Cole 7-10 ... N Cartisle

409 (6) 4462002 BLPWBURY NELL 14 (A Pre-Nerry R Johnson Houghlon 7-10 ... R Finench (3) Long handicap: Deep Water 7-9, Steetbury Hill 7-7.

BETTINGS 3-1 Silverani, 7-2 Blogath, 7-1 Kevarra, Blowtoury Hill, 8-1 Desert Horizon, Fantari 10-1 My Valentina Doep Wales, 12-1 Title Reible 1996: NA.M MINSEEN 8-12 M Roberts (16-1) A Stevent 10 ran

Horizon 41/41 6th to Future Perfect in 11/4m Goodwood handicap (good to firm) Partical Historia May 1 2nd to Infabitation in 11/4m Doncaster handicap (good to firm) Tatta Raffo 6i 6th to Steap Consul in 11/4m Newhory Institution (good to firm). Fantal 181 5th to Artic Cwil in 11/4m York handicap (cold) Kewarra beal Bubble Wings short head in 11/4m Chepstow handicap (good) May Valentina 81 7th to Sasteya in 11/4m Haydock handicap (good to firm). Deep Water 141 2nd to Irsal in 11/4m Sallsbury handicap (good)

SELVERANT'S York second to The Pry takes the eye

4.15 NGK SPARK PLUGS FILLIES HANDICAP (£7,717: 61) (9 runners) | Part |

Long handlage: Boudon Roce 8-6, Pretets Ca 8-6, Atmas 8-5, Danceternghtowy 8-2 8ETTING 7-2 Wildramod Romer, 4-1 Plater of Amous, 5-1 Lochangel, 6-1 Almasi, 7-1 Prends Ca, 8-1 Party Grimes, 10-1 Wellsprong, 12-1 others 1996: PREMOS CA 3-9-0 Pat Editory (13-2) R Hanson 9 can

Wellspring 12 7th to Birt Absalva and Flower beat Double Action ¾ in 6f Ayr handicap (good to soft) with Plaist D'Arnour (6fb better off) 10f 22nd. Lochangel 654f 9th to Biradim in 6f Ascott group it stakes (good to firm). Wellspring 12 7th to Birt Absalva an 6f York Insted stakes (good) previously 2½ 2nd to firm). Wellspring in 6f Newmerdes stakes (soft) with Weldwood Rower (10b worse off) 4½ 3nd Pasty Gritnes beat Ancetiman neck in 5f Haydock handicap (good to firm). Bowden Rose 3f 4th to Tedburtow in 5f Ascott handicap (good). Almass 1¼ 2nd to Pernyston View in 6f Ayr handicap (good to soft). previously bed Prends Ca (6th worse off) neck in 6f Haydock stakes (good to soft).

PREMIDS CA can repeat lact year's success in a competitive event

4.50 FURTHER FLIGHT LIMITED STAKES (£5,640: 1m) (7 nunners)

BETTING: 3-1 (in Martens, 4-1 Steam, Change For A Buck 5-1 Region, 7-1 Great Child, Michem Call, 28-1 First

1996. NO COPPESPONDING RACE

Strazo 15i 7th to Conspicuous in 1m Salectory handicap (good)
On Martens beat Tongan's Prize neck in 1m Window maiden
(good) Midyan Call 211 last of 29 to Widebood Flower in 6f Ay handicap (good to soli). Rapier 11
2nd to Atlantic Desire in 1m Salectory states (good to soli). Change For A Buck beat Egworth 5/1 in Marticabe maiden trend to sent

OR MARTENS appeals as a type to progress

COURSE SPECIALISTS										
TRAINERS S bin Surooi H Cacil M Prescor D Loder J Gosten	Wes. 14 45 3 14 29	Rors 45 182 15 80 168	31 1 24.7 20.0 17.5 15.4	JOCKEYS L Cettori A Firench K Fattorn A Hulls. M Hulls	Winners 51 3 14 20 27	Rides 352 22 111 171 251	% 145 136 126 11 7 10 B			

14/1 Serenity

16/1 Mr Bergerac

16/1 Triple Hay

The blinkered Hayil holds the challenge of Carrowkeel, right, in the Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket vesterday

length. "He is tough little horse, 100 per cent genuine," Morley said. "But he somea young girl staring out of the window during her school lessons. We tried the blinkers

has weathered three heart operations. He said: "It's just wonderful to be able to train nice horses like this, it keeps

3.30 CHAMPAGNE JACQUART NURSERY

HANDICAP (2-Y-0: £3,746: 71) (18)

4.00 CABLE TECH HANDICAP

| 171 | 1200 | ACULATIC COESSI 21 (F) C Dayer 8-0 . T E Darcar (R). | 177 | 79 | 150 | BY JAY 111 B Carley 9-0 | 3 | 169 | 3000 | GRELTON 31 (C).5 | Lánés 8-15 | Paul Estar 9-0 | 9 | (7) 0003 ANEESSES 179 (F) ANS A CACL 8-11 | Marten Dayer 18 | (15) 2301 | LAMORNA 13 (D).5 | M Channel 8-10 | C Ruiter 11 | (15) 8113 | HOMERSTEAD 5 (D).5 (R Hancon 8-10 | D Blogs 12 | (3) 0000 | HANKSBEL HENRY 17 Mrs. A Parent 8-8 | San Marcard

5-1. Bold Tiso, 6-1 Michaelerie, 7-1 Homestead, By Joy, 8-1 Michaeplace, Dayligh Dreams, 10-1 Classicium Piyer, Landona, 12-1 orbers.

(5) CORPORATE MASE 1721 R Simpson 7-3-7 M Salinghor (7) 48 DOUBLE STAR 32 J1, Minis 6-9-7 Doin McKennon 88 (8) 85-2 SPARTAN HEARTBEAT 9 C Behair 4-9-7 W J O'CORDOY 550 DOUBLE STAR 32 J1, Minis 6-9-7 S Double (6) BUMARA M COMBRES 3-8-12 J Carroll (4) 10200 CRYSTAL MILLS 55 J Booken 3-8-12 G Hand 88 (2) 0540 PAIDOY MERRY 55 M Callegian 3-8-12 J F Egon 85 (7) D CHOICE LADY 24 J1 L Hantis 3-8-7 A Cultumn 89 SALY GRECIAM Local Huntengdon 3-8-7 S Sanders —

(a) 5000 SARUMS OF J Lindy 11-10-12 Mes R J Palman (5) 70

8 (2) 0000 SARUMS OF J Lindy 11-10-12 Mes R J Palman (5) 60

9 (1) 0580 SAEEP STEALER 14-R Peacet 9-10-12 Mes C Peacet (6) 58

10 (8) 3335 BON SJEST 55 (6) 145a 8 Sander 9-10-5

11 (2) 504 (AUREL SEEKER 132 Mes A Panel 3-10-5 Mes A Penel 57

12 (5) 0800 PATRITA PARK 30 W 8 M Turner 3-10-3 Mes C Steiton (5) 80

7-4 Resport Kulght, 11-4 Chril Liberty, 6-1 Gold Black, 10-1 Royal Accision, Bon Guest, 14-1 Laural Soeker, 16-7 Dagon's Back, 20-1 others

5.10 MICHIDOE AMATEUR RIDERS LIMITED STAKES (£2,277; 1m 3t 106yd) (12)

4.35 LEFA ENTERPRISES MAIDEN STAKES

(3-Y-0: £3,746: 7f) (16)

(£3,837: 1m 6f) (9)

2.25 GUINEA PIG CLUB CLAIMING STAKES 2.16 COMMANDERS 2.17 COMMANDERS 2.17 COMMANDERS 2.18 Houses 3.7 Williams 2.17 COMMANDERS 2.18 Houses 3.7 Williams 2.17 Command 2.17 Comma

Dept. 9-0 . TE Haran yes

a hard race at Newbury 12 days earlier.

Morley ensured that his patron's attention did not to knuckle down on the

the Godolphin runner quickened clear of his rivals in taking style to win by five

lengths in a decent time. With considerable improvement likely, he looks worth backing. Haami was not suited by the soft ground at Sandown last time and it would be no surprise to see John Dunlop's well-regarded runner reverse the form with

3.40: Kewarra, parmered by the excellent Tim Sprake, is a tentative choice in a difficult race for punters. Rod Millman's runner recorded a when winning a fast-run race at Chepstow three weeks ago and the form was boosted

when the runner-up subsequently hacked up next time. Silverani and Desert Horizon return from lengthy absences but would have claims if at their best, while Ihtiyati is another for the shortlist after being headed in the final strides at Doncaster 20 days

RICHARD EVANS

Abreeze to confirm promise NEWMARKET

CHANNEL 4

2.05: Mons takes a big drop in class but has not raced since being pipped in the Yorkshire Cup in May, and this trip looks on the short side. However, Luca Cumani's strong galloper should ensure a decent pace. Memorise continues to improve, having been runner-up to Busy Flight at Doncaster last time, and he has been shining on the home

However, The Fly must be the choice, having finished an excellent third in the St Leger (Shaya sevenith). Barry Hills' was on board at Newmarket runner travelled particularly six weeks ago. Madly Sharp well at Doncaster and has sufficient speed to cope with the step back in distance.

2.35: Mr Bergerac ran his best race this term in the Ayr Silver Cup, finishing strongly after being outpaced early on. However, he has never won over seven furlongs and there must be staining doubts. Al Muallim is the form choice. At Doncaster last time, he was pipped in the final stride by Safio when arguably hav-

THUNDERER

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

(£2,259: 2m) (6)

(£2,736; 2m 110yd) (8)

HEXHAM

2.15 KARNHEATH CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS
NOVICES HURDLE (£2,011: 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

REUVINGES HUNIQUE (22,UT1: 2011 41 TUVO) (o TREMENS)

1 55-1 PENTLAND SOURE 13 (F) J. Jeferson 6-11-5 A K. Smith (5)
2 012- TUSHBAR TAUK 48F (F) B Ebleno 5-11-5 — C BioCommack (3)
3 - OUF BERNERA 13, J. Marche 5-10-12 — E Hosbard
4 PO GOLDIUMER AUFE 39 News M Revolund 5-10-12 — F Midgley
5 AMATHER PICEA 456F A J. Lockmood 4-10-13 — E Cadagham
6 00- LAST ACTION 214 J. Morton 4-10-8 — B Grattan
4-5 Pentago Sopies, 5-4 Tushba Tafk, 14-9 Last Action, 18-1 Becomma, 33-1
Bolstones Alifa, 50-1 Auction Picea.

4-6 Flying Horlis, 2-1 Orchard King, 14-1 Rubstow, 16-1 Squandamaria, 25-1 Jumbo's Draam, Respecting.

11-4 Another Red, 7-2 Contenden, 5-1 Patarazzo, 11-2 Martile Mart, 6-1 Blazing Dawn, 8-1 All Clear, 10-1 Salom Seach, 33-1 Eatl Gray

3.20 MUSE AND COMPANY HANDICAP CHASE

2.45 SERVICE WELDING NOVICES HURDLE

key to Pip Payne's horse is being held up until the last moment - something Tony McGlone failed to do when he. usually runs well here and is well treated on his best form, but has lost the winning

TODAY'S RACES

ON TELEVISION

ing the worst of the draw. The

3.05: The unbeaten Bintang is the form pick but on both starts he has tended to be very

keen and pulled hard early on. It remains to be seen how much Paul Cole's runner will progress. The bookmakers could hardly give away Abreeze when he made his debut at Sandown, but the

3.50 BUILDING MAINTERANCE COMPANY **SELLING HURDLE** (£1,994: 2m) (10)

2.15 Pentland Squire. 2.45 Flying North. 3.20 All Clear. 3.50 Mercury. 4.25 Tighter Budget. 5.00 Castle Red. 5.30 Ben Doula. 17-8 Hones, 7-4 Dig For Gold, 9-2 Mercary, 8-1 Western Vesture, 16-1 Sesipe. 20-1 Dark Medeight, Macdonfect, 25-1 others

4.25 BELLWAY PLC HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,223: 3m 1f) (10) 1 4142 TIGHTER BLEDGET 6 (C.D.F.E.S) Dissume Sayon 10-12-0
A Dobbi

6 14-0 MANDR RHYME 23 (D.G) J McCouracter 10-10-3 . B Powel
7 6P0- DALUSANIA 154 (F) J Howard Johnson 9-10-1 ... D Bodywaler
8 6442 WALLS COURT 9 (B.G.) J Bodet 10-10-5 ... M Moloney
9 -654 JANRY 566 13 (B.G.) F, D Body 11-10-0 ... L O'Rea
10 F5-0 JUNAEM 9 (F) Mrs E Stack 7-10-0 ... K Johnson

5.00 ROBSON BROWN COMMUNICO NOVICES HURDLE (£2,364: 3m) (7)

2-1 Gate Aregat, 3-1 Sessela, Artic Fox. 7-2 Castle Red. 25-1 State Piezze, Tertan. Joy. 33-1 Patchys On A Roll.

1 56-2 BEN DOULA 13 (6F) Min M Remiey 5-11-4 ... G Line (3)
2 423 CERTAGE SHOT 184 G McCourt 6-11-4 ... D Ford (3)
PPU SKY PURNNER 13 (F) M Multimeson 6-11-4 ... Mr 5 Prior
4 2 AMRESIO 8 M Techniste 4-11-3 ... C McCommack (7)
G CHAPARRO AMARIGUSO B Discip 4-11-3 M M M Mulpidon (3)
6 ECCHRISTIM MES 5 Mail 4-11-3 ... E Callaghan (3)
7 5 KNAYYON KNEGHT 13 J Jederson 4-11-3 ... E Callaghan (3)

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANERS: 6 M Moore, 14 wieners top 69 newers, 20.3%, 8 Efision, 6 from 34, 17.5%,) Howard Johnson, 14 from 84, 16.7%, Mrs M Reveloy, 7 from 50, 14.0%, J Jetlesson, 3 from 28, 10.7%, JOCKEYS: N Bentley, 13 senses: Iron 45 rides, 28.9%; A Dobber, 25 trem 182, 24.5%; E Calloghan, 4 Iron 18, 22.2%, B Gaben, 3 Iron 14, 21.4%; P Miseo, 18 Iron 89, 20.2%; A 5 Senth, 3 Iron 25, 11.5%.

5.30 FEDERATION BREWERY STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,187 2m) (7)

7-4 Ben (Izalia, 9-4 Certain Stat 4-1 America, 8-1 Eucursion, 10-1 Kneyton Knight, 20-1 Chapatro American 25-1 Sig Runner

REE Binoculars! CHARLES WELLS FREE POCKET SPORTS BINOCULARS FOR FIRST TIME. TELEPHONE CALLERS staking \$40 or more, today, using Switch or Delta bank or building society debit cards. RING TODAY DE 1

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BOMBARDIER BITTER H'CAP 6/1 Al Muallim 12/1 Bachelors Pad 6/1 All is Fair

6/1 Hawait

6/1 Madly Sharp 16/1 Mr Sponge **13/2** Kayvee

20/1 Prince Of India 8/1 Highborn Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1,2,3. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 2,20 pm. Tettercals Rule 460 may apply Non runner – no bet.

LATEST ODDS ON William HER TV TEXT - Telegration CHI 1901/602/6/8

163, 20.2%.

JOCKEYS: J Wesser, 85 maners from 390 rates, 21.4%. J Carroll, 11 from 55, 20.0%. D McKnown, 20 from 123, 16.3%, Mr T McClarte, 5 from 31, 16.1%. D Scillets, 8 from 55, 14.5%, R Havin, 3 from 21, 14.3%. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 3.30 6d Newstrund, Memorial. Newmarket: 3.05 Who Nose, Wuri Venture.

Newmarket Going: good (good to firm in places)

Going: good (good to firm in places)
1.30 (1m 4f) 1. WATER FLOWER (M Hills.
10-1); 2. Durgeme Flest (A Culhane, 16-1);
3. Royal Diversion (O Pesiter, 6-1). ALSO
RAN: 7-2 lav Break. The Rules, 6 Navel
Games (4th), 7 Stategack, 8 Spartan
Royale, 10 Final (5th), Once More For
Luck, 12 Go Hence, 20 At Liberty, 33
Behmarita (6th), Daughin, 50 Monacis, 14
ran, 14, 16, 14, 14, 17 Fanshewe at
Newmarket, Totle, E1290, C300, 25.60,
22.70. DF: £256.60, Trior £454.90, CSF:
£149 44

2.36 (1m) 1. INTIKHAB (R Hills, 11-4); 2, Seets Lawr (L Dethori, 4-1); 3. Polish Rhythm (J Red. 50-1). ALSO RAN: Evens lav Ein Rosie (Eth). 11 Remozz (#th), 16 West A. Minute (Eth) Gran. 2, 14, nk, 144, nk. D Mortey of Newmarkel. Total 53.80; 61 70. 51.90 DF: 55.80. SEP: \$12.93. 21 70, 51,90 DF: 55,60 CSF: \$12,93.
3.10 (6f) 1, MAYIL (f) Hills, 14-1); 2. Carrowteel (M Hills, 15-2), 3. Designer (C) Pesier, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 10-11 tex Attacken Hern (47h, 4 Victory Note (5th, 15-2 Captain Tim, 12 Bernsha Swing (8th), 50 Ceitic Pageant, 8 aps. 14, nk, 141, 31, 31, 21. D Morievy al Neumarket Total 516, 50: 52-50, 51: 90, 52-20, DF: 645,80 CSF: 500-50, 57

3.40 (5f) 1. DASHING BLUE (L Delich, 2-1 12-1-2 Bishops Court (J Fortune, 11-2): 3. Tapsy Creek (F Hills, 8-1) ALSO RAN:



100-30 Blue Iris, 8 Ahmaty (6th), 10 Bolshoi (5th), 12 Croit Pool (4th), 20 Hello Mister, 8 ran, NK, hd., 144, 2, 11, 1 Belding at Kingsciere, Totes: 52 70; £1 30, £2 50, £1 30, DF: £10.50, CSF: £12.85.

Ringsclean, Totas: 62.70; 21.30, 62.50, 61.30. DF; \$10.50. CSF; \$12.85.

4.15 (7t) 1. QUBET ASSURANCE (R Hills, Svens isv); 2. Connolesseur Bay (J Reid, 12-1); 3. Marrivet (M Ferton, 50-1). ALSO RAN, 11-2 Sinan, 13-2 Wayne Lukas, 1) Wandering Wolf, 12 High Noon, Joint Regent (4th), 20 White Scissors (6th), 25 frankie Ferrari, Mondschein, Regel Patriarth, Top Gasz, 33 Zobaida, 50 Amblguous, Comar Pier, Empire State, Honest Bodterer (6th), My Tyson, Northern Lass, Richmond Hill, Rock Sounds, 22 ran, 1 W, 1, 191,-16, 23-J. E Duelop at Newmentol. Tota: 62.40; £1.40, £5.50, £14.70. E52.20, Tric: £1.603.20 (part won. Pool of £748,78 camied forward in 4.00 Lingheid Park lockey). CSF: £14.89.

4.45 (5t) 1. DOMINANT AIR (G Duffield, 5-1); 2. Kram (J Outm, 20-1); 3. Passionati (T Williame, 25-1); 4. Shelstayholy (C Louther, 8-1), ALSO RAN; 4 fav Caudon, 11-2 Rrst Principle (5th), 7 Sonyletter, 8 Anokato (6th), 10 Euroim Princes, Saly Green, 16 Brambia Bear, 20 Logariea, 25 (se Age, 33 College Princess, Dunide And Rue, 60 Tricker's Surprise, 18 ran, Ivi, Ki, sh Ind, Ind, Ink M Prescoti at Newments. Tota: £5.30, £1.70, £4.60, £4.90, £2.00. DF; £88.21. Jackpot: not won (pool of £15,826.78 carried forward to Newmarket today). Pacapot: £463.80. Quedoof; £325.0.

Quadpot: £32.50. Hereford Going-good to firm (good in places) Comg. good to arm guest at pacces? 1.45 (2m.1f.hole) 1, Exalted (7 Jenies, 5-1), 2, Almuissram (8-1); 3, Barrius (4-7 tev), 8 ran, 44, 11t. W Jenies, Toto: £7,10; £1,40, £1,70, £1,10. OF: £16,60. CSF; £41,29

St. 10. DF: £1.60 CSF: £1.85; 9.90 (2m 3f 110yd hdie) 1, Bernepour (AP McCoy, 4-11 fav), 2, Royal Circus, (5-2), Only two firsted: 3 ran, 364 M Pips, Tote 51.40. DF: £1.30, CSF: £1.67, 4.00 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Commanche Creak (A P McCoy, 2-4 [Hav); 2, Kinlogh-

2.30 (21: 33.00, CSF: 36.77 2.50 (2n) Hode) 1, Amagos (T Dascombe 11-10): 2. Sport Of Fools (12-1): 3, Coinceser (Evens tark) 3 ran. NRT Coura-geous Kright 354, 2 R Hodges, Tole 21:90. DF 26:30, CSF: 36.76. 4.25 (2m 3f ch) 1, Indian Temple (G Supple, 6-4 text; 2, Can't Say (11-4); 3, Pat Of Jacks, (11-4), 5 ran, 6l, 20l. K Bistrop. Tele: 22.50; 51.30, 51.70 OF: 52.60, CSF 55.76 100: 0 55:70 4:55 (2m 1f hds) 1. Top Shell (W Worth-ington, 2-1); 2. Baydium (4-7 tan); 3. Abbay Thoshe (2-1), 3 ran. NR: Praise Minshel 18. dist. P Bevan. Tote: £2:10. OF: £1:20 CSF-£3:28. Placepot: £7:32.70. Quadpot: £94.00.

ASS (2m 3/.110)rd hole 1, The Brewer (R Belsany, 13-2); 2, Honeybed Wood (4-1); 3, Regamen (7-2) Sicaran 9-4 fav. 7 ran. NR: Gunny's Garl 1%, 9t. J Tuck. Tote: 93.30; 52.20, 52.20. DF £16.70. GSF 532.16. Tricast £39.34 Taunton Going: libm: • '

2.15 (2m trindle) 1, Northern Drums (8) Fenton, 5-1); 2, Aerial View (14-1); 3. Little Hoodgan (5-1); House: 15-8 law, 10 ran, 11, 1941 N Benberge, Totte 95,50; C140, 22 10, C1.50. DF: (236.60), Top: (246.00). CSF: 861.05 2.45 (2m 3) 110vd hote) 1, Dolce Notic (C Maude, 6-4); 2, PC's Cruser (13-2); 3, See Prosperity (25-1) General Glow Evens-tav

Next best: Abreeze

(3,05 Newmarket)

PROBLEMENT EVANS Nap: PRENDS CA (4.15 Newmarket)

(f), 4 ran. Dist., 121. M Pipe Toter £1.60. DF; 158.40. CSF, 158.82. 3.20 (2m 3f ch), 1, Fernwick (J Harris, 2-1 16v); 2, Northern Singler (9-4); 3, Presiden, Cliber (3-1), 4 ran. Ner Boro Vaccation, Costacornier, 241, 241. R Hodges, Tota, 12.30 DF; 13.30. CSF; 13.17

FOOTBALL

Hoddle's Roman road smoothed by United labour

By Oliver Holt, football correspondent

Manchester United manager, was, as usual, up early yesterday morning. Instead of heading towards the club training ground at The Cliff in Salford, he drove down the M6 to Birmingham, to address the FA Coaches Association Conference. At midday, he stood up and began his lecture on Key Issues in the Technical Development of

Players.
If his audience was rapt, it was because 16 hours earlier Ferguson had given a compelling practical demonstration of his subject in front of more than 53,000 people who crammed into Old Trafford. On Wednesday night, the development of Manchester United's players, both technical and temperamental, was there for all to see.

A year earlier. United had slumped to two straightfor-ward, clear-cut defeats to Juventus: overawed at first. outplayed later. When Alessandro del Piero opened the scoring for the Italian champions after 24 seconds in the rerun in the second round of group matches in the European Cup Champions' League on Wednesday, it looked as if Ferguson's team had gone backwards.

Instead, United refused to be cowed, refused to give up. This time they fought back. They stayed calm while raising their determination to fever pitch. Gary Pallister made a perfectly-timed tackle on Filippo Inzaghi that warmed the heart, Teddy Sheringham was the soul of invention once more, Ryan Giggs flew down the left wing. teasing and tormenting. Paul Scholes played with the assurance of a veteran and David

Beckham was everywhere. The 3-2 victory for United was the first time for 18 years that Juventus had succumbed this against a United team shorn of Roy Keane, forced to substitute Nicky Butt and play Phil Neville, usually a wing back, in the centre of midfield

ALEX FERGUSON, the for the last third of the match. As the supporters hugged each other in the stands at the final whistle, they were celebrating not just an isolated win but the debunking of the myth of superiority that surrounded Juventus and Italian football.

get it into their heads that Juventus is not invincible," Marcello Lippi, their coach, said after the game.

There has been an exaggerated respect for Juventus, in particular, for too long," Paul ince, the Liverpool captain, who spent two highly successful years in Serie A with internazionale, said yesterday. "People should start recognising the strides that English clubs have made and that England have made, too, under Terry Venables and Glenn Hoddle."

The apologists for the Italians will say that the sending off of Didier Deschamps 24 minutes from the end changed the course of the game, but Juventus were only paying the price for their own ill-discipline, their failure to contain United by legitimate means. Lippi suggested that United

were lucky in the second half but he acknowledged, too, that Juventus had been fortunate in their match in Manchester last season. Ferguson had a stroke of luck, too, when running repairs pushed him into moving Giggs out to the



Pallister: perfect timing

left, where he went on to excel. and bringing on Scholes, who scored such a wonderful second goal. Sheringham appeared to be clearly offside on that occasion, but United have suffered such reverses in the past. These things even them-"I wish that people would selves out and United deserved their breaks on this

autumn night. The win leaves them three points clear at the top of group B, with Juventus, Feyenoord and Kosice, who already seem to be out of their depth, toiling in their wake. Ferguson spoke darkly of how United might regret the last minute goal they conceded to Zidane's mesmeric free kick, but even if United slip up in the Stadio delle Alpi on December 10, they are now well placed to qualify for the quarter-finals as one of the best runner's-up.

was greeted with dismay, especially in the light of the World Cup showdown between Italy and England that takes place in the Olympic Stadium in Rome a week tomorrow. "If Italy needed some kind of clue as to how that match is going to go." La Gazzetta dello Sport said yesterday, "last night's disaster at Old Trafford was a

In Italy, of course, the result

In Il Corriere della Sera, the tone was much the same. "We cannot afford any more mistakes," the paper agonised. We just have to hope that the English make a few. What happened last night was much worse than anyone could have The extent of the Italians'

nsychological trauma is understandable. It is conceivable that seven of the United players who performed so commendably on Wednesday night, and beat the best club side that Italy has to offer, will start the match for England in

ticular pleasure from Ferguson's lecture. That man was Glenn Hoddle.



Gary Neville, left, adds to the acclaim erupting around Giggs after the United forward's exquisite goal

Fate conspires against Asprilla

By DAVID MADDOCK

THE Olympic Stadium in Kiev is a huge concrete tribute to Soviet minimalist architecture. It is a dark, forbidding structure, full of imposing

It is an easy place to get lost, and on Wednesday night one such wrong turning led into a room inhabited by a solitary, brooding figure. The moody stranger turned out to be Valery Lobanovsky, the cele-brated coach of Dynamo Kiev. He was, he said, even an hour after the final whistle, trying to come to terms with a draw in Champions' League against Newcastle United. Lobanovsky is a menacing

character, a coach of the old school, who in two previous stints with Dynamo led them to two triumphs in the Cup speakers at the Coaches Con- not come to his lins naturally. ference seemed to derive par-... He is surly, almost as second nature, so when at the final whistle he turned his back on Kenny Dalglish, the New-

castie manager, it came as no surprise. Lobanovsky refused to shake hands because he felt there had been an injustice. He felt the English team had stolen a point when their performance deserved nothing but heavy defeat.

He had a point. Whichever way you look at it Newcastle were lucky, almost staggeringly so, in the manner in which they survived a trouncing for 70 minutes before sneaking back almost shamefaced into the game, with two streaky

But fortune such as that inevitably comes at a price and for Newcastle it was a heavy one. They may have won an important point in Kiev, given the surprisingly open nature of group C, but they lost in the process their most important player. Faustino Asprilla limped from the pitch after 27 and it is unlikely that he will gue group matches.

at Newcastle airport in the quarter-finals, the man most

early hours of Thursday morning, Asprilla explained that he had a serious groin injury that appeared ominously like a hernia problem. He saw the same specialist yesterday who operated twice to repair Alan Shearer's hernia

and the prognosis is not good. At the very least, the Colombian forward will miss the next month, at the worst he could be absent for up to eight weeks, which would keep him out of the remaining Champions' League games.

It is hard to over emphasise Asprilla's importance to Newcastle at present. In the absence of Shearer he has become a central figure and provides just about all the attacking options the North East dub present. Even if Dalglish was to buy a replacement, the new signing would not be eligible to play in the

play a game for at least a So, just as it appears that Newcastle have a wonderful opportunity of reaching the

likely to put them there has been ruled out. His replacement will have to be Ian Rush. a forward who knows all about European triumph, but one who has scored only two goals in the past

If that is not a tricky enough problem for Dalglish, then listen to the words of Lobanovsky after the match on Wednesday, bemoaning the gods that conspired against his side. "Newcastle deserve nothing, they came here without ambition and paid the price, and I still

cannot understand how they escaped with a point," he said. Newcastle did not play well, but the fact remains that they now have four points from two extremely difficult matches and, in the same group, both Barcelona and PSV Eindhoven have just one from the may be that group C will come down to the last game of the series, when Kiev visit St

RESULTS: Sporting Lisbon 3 Monaco 0 Bayer Leverlosen 1 Lierse 0; Uerse 1 Sporting Lisbon 1; Monaco 4 Sayer Leverlosen 0

MATCHES TO COME: Oct 22: Moraco V

Holdsworth wanders wanders to Bolton in £3m move By David Maddock AN HOLDSWORTH will viete a E3 million transfer lolton Wand

complete a E3 million transfer to Bolton Wanderers this morning after agreeing terms with the FA Carling Premiership side last night. He had a medical at the Reebok Stadium yesterday and quickly accepted a five-year contract that will earn him in excess of El million.

It was not a decision that troubled Holdsworth for long. "I had to get away from Wimbledon because I did not have much of a first-team opportunity towards the end of my time there," he said yesterday. "I enjoyed my time in London, but I have to think of my career and I need firstteam football. Colin Todd (the Bolton manager impressed me and he made a good job of selling the club. Boiton are clearly going places and i think there is now a sound financial structure in place for us to do well".

Todd has been searching for a striker since guiding Wanderers back into the FA Carling Premiership after a record-breaking promotion season. His search took on a more significant meaning two weeks ago when his first-choice forward, Nathan Blake, was sent off against Manchester United and received a three-match ban.

Lee Sharpe, 26, the Leeds United winger, will not play again this season. He has been out since damaging anterior cruciate ligaments in his knee in a pre-season match on August 2 and will undergo

surgery next Wednesday. Sheffield Wednesday have completed the £800,000 signing of Petter Rudi, the Norway midfield player. The 23-yearold has signed a 32-year contract and could make his debut against Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday, October 19. He is contracted with Molde until then

FIXTURES

PAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier division: Drogheds v Sigo (7 45): Shalbourne v Cook (7 45): JHALET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First division: Wick v Burgess Hill

Bristol v Agen (7.30) ...

RUGBY LEAGUE World club championship Quarter-finals

OTHER SPORT

Beyond commitment. Beyond skill. Beyond teeth-jarring

body-checks you pay for in cash. Beyond speed-blur, the puck

a land mine at your feet, primed to explode. Beyond desire.

There is The Stanley Cup".









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CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE TABLES Newcastle 2. MATCHES TO COME: Oct 22: Dynamo Kev v Barcelons: PSV Eindhoven v Newcastle, Nov 5: Barcelona v Dynamo Kley, Newcastle v PSV Eindhoven; Nov 28: Dynamo Kley, Newcastle v PSV Eindhoven; Bercelona v Newcastle. Dec. 10: PSV Eindhoven v

RESULTS: Real Mactrid 4 Rosenborg Olympiakos 1 FC Porto 0; FC Porto 0 Re Madrid 2; Rosenborg 5 Olympiakos 1. MATCHES FO COME: Nov 5: FC Porto Rosenborg: Olympiakos v Real Madrid Nov 26: Rosenborg v Real Madrid; FOrto v Olympiakos v Rosenborg. Olympiakos v Rosenborg. Olympiakos v Rosenborg.

Bashtas 3 Paris Saint-Germain I.
MATCHES TO COME: Nov 5; FK Gother-burg v Besidas; Paris Saint-Germain v Bayen Munich. Nov 28: Besidas v Bayen Munich. Nov 18: Besidas v Bayen Munich. PK Gotherburg v Paris Saint-Germain. Dec 10: Bayen Munich v IFK Gotherburg; Paris Seint-Germain v Bashtas.

Feltham's arrival keeps Sutton flying

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

SUTTON United would settle for carrying their blazing form of early autumn through a centenary season that culminates in a players' reunion on March 5, 1998 — a hundred years to the day that two clubs in the town united to form the present one.

Although a run of seven successive victories in Sep-tember was halted by a 2-2 draw at Welling United in an FA Cup second qualifying round tie at Park View Road on Saturday, Sutton, of the Isthmian League, beat the Vauxhall Conference side 2-1 in the replay at Gander Green Lane on Tuesday night.

The introduction of Dominic Feltham as a second-half substitute turned the match Sutton's way after Welling, given the lead in the twelfth minute by Mark Cooper, were only denied further reward for their ascendancy by the acrobatics in goal of Les Cleevely.

Feltham laid on an equal iser for Jimmy Dack in the 79th minute and then scored the winner himself five minutes from time. Feitham's arrival helped to make up for the shackles imposed upon Joff Vansittart — 13 goals already this season - and Matt Hanlan. Hanlan was brought back

to Sutton by John Rains, who made nearly 700 appearances for the club in 13 seasons from 1974 to 1987 before taking over as manager at the start of last season. Hanlan's place in club lore is already enshrined: he scored the winner in the club's triumph over Coventry City in the FA Cup in 1989. Whether Sutton will be able

wards regaining their place in the Conference that they lost in 1991 will be sorely tried by the likes of Kingstonian and Dagenham and Redbridge, Kingstonian underlined their strength by beating Do-ver Athletic, of the Conference, at the Crabble in the FA Cup on Saturday, taking ad-

vantage of the dismissal of the

home side's goalkeeper, Ron

Fearon, before rattling in four

to maintain the impetus to-

goals in a 4-0 victory. Another 4-0 defeat followed for Dover when they went down at Woking in the Conference on Tuesday. This time they had Stuart Munday and Lee Paimer sent off against a Woking side who fielded Steve West, their record £35,000 signing from Enfield.

An evening with Kevin Keegan

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

TIMES readers are invited to a Times/Dillons forum on Thursday October 16 in London with Kevin Keegan, the former manager of Newcastle United Keegan, who was also an England international footballer, will be the star speaker on a panel which will include Oliver Holt, football correspondent of The Times. Among the topics for discussion are details of Keegan's sudden

departure from Newcastle last season, his views on modern management, his return to football with Fulham and England's World Cup prospects.

The forum marks the publication of Keegan's My Autobiography (Little Brown £16.99) and will be held at

Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SWI at 7.30pm. Admission price is £10 (concessions £7.50) and includes £2 off the price of the book. There will also be an opportunity for the audience to put questions to him.

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

Please send me ______ Gricotis) at £10 each (£7.50 concessions) for the Times/Dillons Forum with Kevin Keepan at 7.38pm on Thursday, October 16, at Westminster Central Hall, London SW1.

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RUGBY LEAGUE

Anxious Hunter keep Wigan in their sights

By Christopher Irvine

THE possibility that Hunter Mariners' match at Central Park tonight may be their last before the plug is pulled on their franchise after only one season ought to be enough of an incentive for the Australian team to beat Wigan and maintain their challenge in the world club championship through to the semi-finals. With the rival Australian

Wanden,

Super League (ASL) and Australian Rugby League (ARL) competitions seemingly set on a course towards reunion, there would appear to be no place for Hunter in a single competition. A number of their players could re-emerge next year at Paris, Glasgow, Edinburgh or Cardiff — in other words, whichever fran-chise the British Super League opts for in 1998.

Despite the gallows humour on the team visit to Central Park yesterday, the sense of having nothing to lose could easily wreck the best chance of a British team surviving the quarter-finals. "If we were playing Canberra or Brisbane, we'd be confident," Graham Murray, the Hunter coach, said. "If we spoil the party, so be it".

Hunter have had six weeks since the end of the season to ponder their fate. Idle hands

have been busy, though, and whereas Wigan's match fit-ness might have held the key to the match tonight, the British side paid a heavy price in injuries to Gary Connolly. Tony Smith and Nigel Wright while retaining their Premier-ship title left Seedow. ship title last Sunday. Wright will have a late

check on an arm injury, but in a reshuffled back line, Craig Murdock is at scrum half Andy Johnson moves infield and the quietly impressive Daryl Cardiss onto the wing. As pleased as he was to see the back of Connolly and Smith, Murray rates Jason Robinson as the world's best player, with Andy Farrell not far

Although Humer failed to. make the ASL play-offs, they defeated the top five teams and are unbeaten in six world. championship matches. They have generally struggled away from home, which is set in the industrial centre of Newcastle, New South Wales, where they run a poor second in popularito the Newcastle Knights. the winners of the ARL competition for the first time last

Kris Radlinski has the task of policing Kevin Iro, the centre known as "The Beast". who, together with his broth-



Tony Iro renews acquaintance with Central Park

for the first time since their marauding days there in the Eighties. I'm not sure if the boys realise how special it's going to be," Tony said. "I'm just glad the team's going to be part of it, after all the rumours that we might not be here next

Breaking down Hunter's well-drilled defence will not be the only problem. Eric Hughes, the Wigan coach. said: "They're a top side, and if you say to a gang of blokes who've gelled together, that this might be their last game, they're going to move heaven and earth."

Hunter's future, as well as the release of Connolly and Robinson from their ARL contractual obligations in order to represent Great Britain in the three-match series against the ASL representative side in November, depends on swift progress towards unification in Australia. Britain's chances of at least

one side advancing to the semi-finals of a competition. the pool stages of which were disfigured by 52 Australasian wins to Europe's eight, hinge to an unhealthy degree on Wigan. Were it not for the fact that Auckland Warriors have beaten Bradford Bulls twice already, the last time by 64-14, the Super League champions might have made a more convincing case about being third time lucky today.

Robbie Paul was part of the New Zealand team that beat Australia for the first time in six years last week. Today, he is up against the bulk of the same side at scrum half for Bradford, who are right to fear Auckland's withering pace, but who need to show that, defensively, they can withstand the pressure.

The dubious privilege of trying to overturn Brisbane, the ASL champions, falls tomorrow to St Helens at ANZ 20, will cut his teeth at scrum half for London Broncos at home against Cronulla in the last quarter-final, on Sunday.



Langer, left, and Montgomerie assess the impact of the strong wind in the first round of the German Open yesterday

Bjorn hard put not to daydream

FROM JOHN HOPKINS GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN BERLIN

THOMAS BJORN'S eyes were sunken, even more sunken then they had been at Valderrama last Sunday when the full effect of Europe's victory in the Ryder Cup had not even begun to sink in. His cheeks, blown by a gusting, autumnal wind until they were as red as Kentish apples, helped to conceal what the eyes could not hide, that the Dane was absolutely exhausted. He looked as though he could sleep for a week.

"That was about as badly as I have struck the ball all year but I scored well, I got it round." Bjorn said in his excellent English after a 71, one under par, in the first round of the Linde German Masters at the Berliner Golf day. "He shouldn't be here." Martin Gray, his caddie said. "He's shattered. Come to that, so am l."

One after another the Europe and United States team players, who had moved from Spain to this part of what was formerly East Germany, reeled off the wind-blown course. "It's a difficult day out there," Phil Mickelson said by way of explanation for a 73, one over par, the same total as

Tom Lehman's.

Lee Westwood, 79, Ignacio arrido, 76, Costantino Rocca, 75, and Darren Clarke. 73, were those who were over par. Per Ulrik Johansson had a 72 while Colin Montgomerie had a 71. The 69 by José Maria Olazábal left him one stroke behind the joint-leaders, David Howell, Martin Gates and, inevitably, Bernhard Langer. It is necessary to say inevitably about Langer because he usually does well in bad conditions, which others find so trying, and usually birth. When the two conditions combine, when the weather is bad in Germany, then

nothing, not even residual

Dealer South

fatigue from an event as exciting as the Ryder Cup, can stop him playing well. Bjorn went through the

ritual celebrations at the hotel in San Roque on Sunday evening before flying back to London and then out to Germany for this event. And still he has not fully digested the magnitude of it, though he is clear how Europe were able to withstand a fierce American challenge in the singles to win by one stroke.

"We all connected so well," he said. "We supported one another. We knew we had to. We knew that was the only way we could beat the US. Everyone was there for each

"The experienced players in our team helped the young guys produce their best. They were there to give us a pat on the back when we needed it. Saturday evening. In the team-room we were a bit high after doing everything so well. They told us we had to be 100 per cent the next day. They realised that just because we were leading 102-52 didn't mean we would beat the US. We had to be sure we were not

"We were getting to them [the US] mentally by the end," Bjorn continued. "We could see that. We thought that they thought they could not beat us around Valderrama. It was a good course for us because we knew it so much better than they did. Bjorn's half-point in the

singles, eked out after being

four down after four holes to Justin Leonard, the Open champion, was a stirring comeback. "Seve [Ballesteros] told me it took the pressure off the others," Bjorn said. "I hit some fantastic shots. I birdied the 5th and the 9th and Justin made mistakes on the 8th and the 10th. It was a real head-on halved all day. It was like being in the Second World War out there. I really proved I can cope with pressure,"

TENNIS

Henman avenges defeat by Kucera

By JULIAN MUSCAT TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

TIM HENMAN took advantage yesterday of a lacklustre display from Karol Kucera to advance to the quarter-finals of the ATP Tour event in Basie, Switzerland. In dismissing his opponent 6-4, 6-1, the British No 2 was never required to rise above the ordinary.

Victory amounted to sweet revenge for Henman, who lost to Kucera, of Slovakia, in the semi-finals at Nottingham in June. Given the curious problems Kucera experienced with his service toss, a similar outcome here was most unlikely. Kucera, world ranked No 31, repeatedly abandoned his action in mid-swing, in the process undermining his confidence and so irritating Henman that the Briton had words with the umpire.

With Kucera looking any thing but comfortable, it was predictable when, facing a break point at 4-4, the Slovakian double-faulted to concede the initiative. Henman claimed the opening set at the third attempt and promptly went from strength

A similar malaise afflicted Kucera at 1-1 in the second set. Three double faults were more than he could redeem and Henman's confidence swelled to such an extent that he broke his toiling opponent at every opportunity. Kucera was now a pale shadow of the man who beat Goran Ivanisevic in the opening round on Tuesday.

For all his opponent's problems, this was a stronger showing from Henman, who struggled to find his range when beating Marc Kevin Göllner on Tuesday. He improved as the match progressed, prompting his coach, David Felgate, to observe: Tim started over-confidently against Göllner. Since then we have worked on getting more first serves in."

The prospect of further progress from Henman is enhanced by the tumbling of seeds in his half of the draw. He meets the unseeded Magfinals today. yesterday ousted his fellow Swede and No 5 seed, Jonas Bjorkman, in straight sets.

FOR THE RECORD

	· · ·	•
FOOTBALL		Ξ.
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' round, second leg: Areat Yere FC Copenhagen (Derf 2 (Cope) 5-0 on agg). Primorje (Stovene) (Swe) 1 (Primorje ven 2-1 Lotomotiv Moscow (Rust) 3 Bobrusk Bela 0 (Lotomotiva)	Man (Am Integran 1 1 ABK So On ag Balsha	ir O Ima Ima Ima Imal

Wednesday's late results *** COCA-COLÁ CUP: Second ro

even kerge

win 6-0 on agg); Eventon 8 Sounthorpe 0 (Eventon win 6-0 on agg); Millwell 1 Winholadon 4 (Winholadon win 9-2 on agg); Shaffield Warniseday 3 Grimsby 2 (Grimsby win 4-3 on agg). Shelfield Wathseday 3 Grimstoy 2 (Gametry veri 4-3 on agg).

THIRD-ROUND DRAW: Sensitey y Southemptous: West Harn United v Aston-Villa; Residing v Wolvernempton Wandseds; Cutord United v Transvera Rowse; West Sconsetch Afforn v Liverpoot; Mitchiesbrough: v Sundarfand, loswich, Town. v Manchester United; Gdmbby Town v Lelosster Cty, Bolton Wandersers v Wimbledon; Chelsen v Blackburn; Rosers; Stote-Leeds United: Arsenal y Birmingham Newcastle United y Hulf City, Totten

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Today The Times, courtesy of Ebel, offers you the A chance to win golf withon from Colin Montgomerie. He will give the lucky winner lessons at an exclusive golf clinic on Tuesday, October 7 at Wentworth, Surrey. As a bonus, the winner will then play a round of golf with Per Ulrik Johansson on Wentworth's East Course. We also have four runners-up prizes of two pairs of VIP tickets for the semi-final and two pairs for the final of the Toyota World Matchplay Championship at Wentworth on Saturday, October 11 and Sunday, Oct 12.

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ham Hotspur v Derby Louiney, white de Viverton; Walsali v Sheffield United.

U Title at the played week commencing October 13.

MASSOND LEAGUE CUP: First round:
Bamber Bridge 2 Gratna 1; Bradford Perk Avenus 1 Lincoln Und C; Whitby 8 Hamogate Jown 1.

ISTHAUAN LEAGUE: First division:
Molesey 0 Bertdernsted 1. Second division:
Molesey 0 Bertdernsted 1. Second divisions at 1 Badding 2. ham Hotspur v Derby County; Coventry City v Everjon; Walsall v Sheffield United.

SSTHMAN LEAGUE: First division: Moissey O Barthernsted 1. Second division: Chestrum 1 Barting 2. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chestrum Athletic 2 Crystal Palece 0: toexich Town 2. Codord United 3; Pontstrouth 0 Switchon Town 2 Walford O Arsonal 3; Wimbledon 0 Cusans Park, Rangers 3. Postponed: Luton Town v West Ham United.

Areasal 3; Wimbledon 0 Queens Park Areasal 3; Wimbledon 1 Queens Park Rangers 3. Poetponed: Lukon Town v West Harn United.

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Birmingham City 0 Leeds United 0; Preston North End 0 Asich Villa 0. First division: Oldhem 6 Notis County 0: Pon Vale 3 Laicester 2; Sunderland 3 Huddensfield 1. Second division: Banslay 1 Bradford 1; Curista 0 Rochicle 0; Windham 3 Lincoln 0; York 2 Stockpord 3: Third division: Chester 3 Chesterfold 1; Scarborough 1 Watsall 6; Wigen 1 Donicatier 4. COMPLETE MUSIC HELLPHIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Francisco division: Handrans: Trabase 0 Bodell Swifts 1

ENISCHEM INSURANCE MULLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Handrans: Trabase 0 Bodell Swifts 1

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Micham 3. WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National

MICHAIN S. PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Doncaster S Liverpool 1.
UNDER-18 INTERNATIONAL: testand 1 France 2 (at Frank Cooke Park).
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Turisis 0 Australa 3 fin Turis).
ARGENTINE: LEAGUE: Racing Cate 2 Rever Plate 3; Deporting Espanol 1 Ferro.
Carril Osate 1; Velec Sassfeld 0 Argentinos Juniors 11: Union 1 Girmassis-Luby 1; Garmassis-La Parka 2 Larius 1; Garmassis-Salta 0 Colon 2; Booz Juniors 2 Independents 1; Platanse 1 Estudiantes 0.
BRAZILIAN 1EAGUE: Bahis 3 Goles 1; Sestos 3 Union São Joso 1; Atlasto PR 2 Portuguesa 0; Confribiners 2 Pagnaptino 0; Visso da Gerne 2 Palmeiras 1; Botatiogo 1 Sport Recite 0; Crictums 0 Internacional 1; Aventude 0 Flamengo 1; Vistat) Armatica RN 1; Grennio 0 Cauzero 0; Gauarani 0 São Paulo 0.

BASEBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE: Play-offe: Asserta 19 Houston 3 (Atlanta lead best-of-live series 2-0). AMERICAN LEAGUE: Play-offs: Ballumore 9 Septile 3 (Ballimore lead 1-0).

BASKETBALL MEN'S EUROPEAN CUP: Group B: PAOK Selonika 72 Estudientes Madrid 75. Group C: Ulkerspor (Tur) 67 Pau Criftez (Fr) 64. Group D: Bologna 70 AEK Alhers 57. CRICKET

Third one day international match Pakistan v India LAHORE (Pokistan won tosa): Pak best India by rana wickets

AICHE *S R Tenchilistr c Internem b Asoph S C Gengley c Husselin b Sanjelin S R R Singh b Achar M Admendin e Moin b Achar V G Kembil c b Achar V B Kembil c b Achar A D Ledge c vizarmam b Waqar 19 S Karim b Husselin b Waqar R K Chauhen c Husselin b Waqar A P Künville run out

N Kulikami e sub b Aaqib D Mohanty not out Botras: (ib 5, nb 2, w 11) PAKISTAN

KARACFIE Tour match (second day of three): South Aricans 305-7 declared and 152-5. (G Kirsten 61; P L Symoox 4-25); Pakistan Cricket Board XI 132.

BERLIN: Linds German Masters: Leading first-round scores (GB and ire unless stated): 68: D Howel, B Langer (Ger), M Gales 86: G Orr, JM Olazabia (Sp.), 70: A Binaghi (II), P Haugsrud (Non), 71: J Spance, S Torance, P Spotend (Swe), T Bjorn (Den), C Montgomesie, A Colten, P McGinley.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEASUE (NHL): Pineburgh 3 Los Angeles 3 (01), Montreal 2 Ottaws 2 (01); Philadelphia 3 Horida 1; Tampa Bay 4 Carolina 2; Washington 4 Toronto 1; Bullato 3 St Louis 1; Detroi 3 Calgary 1; Colorado 2 Dallas 2 (01); Phoems 6 Chicago 2; Edmonton 5 San Jose 3.

WHITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: First leg (Southernoton to Cape Town): Leading positions (with distance to Insish): 1, Innovenon Reseme (No. 4,984 Smiler; 2, Mert Cup (Monaco) 5,023.6; 3, EF Language (Swo) 5,055.2; 5, Sik Cut (GB) 5,129.9; 6, Toetabe (LS) 5,234.5.

MOTHERWELL: Regal Masters: First round: R O'Sulfhen (Eng) bt A Robidoux (Cen) 5-1 Osserter-final: A Mobilenus (Scot) bt P Ebdon (Eng) 6-3.

PALERMO: Men's tournament: First round: Second round: A Portes (Sp) bit if Messon (m) 6-1, 6-3.

BASI.E: Men's tournament: First round: 1 Heuberger (Switz) bit M Rosset (Switz) 7-6.

7-5; J.Bjorkman (Swe) bit A Boetsch (Fr) 6-2.

6-3; M Philippoussa (Aus) bit A Costa (Sp) 7-6, 6-3.

BELIJING: Men's tournament: First round: R Futan (f) bit N I Cester (Ger) 6-4. 6-2; M Rissrom (Swe) bit Xa Jia Pling (China) 7-6.

6-4; K Carlsen (Den) bit M Woodborde (Aus) 6-4, 7-6, 8-1 Secondi round: M Gustelsson (Swe) bit D Riki (Cz) 6-2, 6-4; B Stack (Zm) bit J Gimetsub (US) 3-6, 7-5, 6-4; K Carlsen (Den) bit M Rissrom (Swe) 8-2, 6-4. T. Johansson (Swe) bit J. Paes (incide) 7-6, 8-1; G Pezzi (m) bit Gespford (SA) 6-3, 8-4, J Courier (US) bit M Onchusics (SA) 6-4, 6-3: J Krotski (Slovalski bit C Wilferson (SA) 6-3, 8-4, J Courier (US) bit M Onchusics (SA) 6-4, 6-3: J Krotski (Slovalski bit C Wilferson (SA) 6-3, 8-4, MOTTINGHAM: Satellile tournament (GB) 6-7, 8-1: A O'Brien (LIS) bi Fusien 7-8, 8-4.
NOTTINGHALE Setellite turnement (GB unless stand): Merr. Brist round: J Fox bit A Gorcélez (Sp) 6-3, 7-5. Second round: D Sapestord it G Derlington 6-4, 6-1: N Wests bit M Haton 6-3, 2-8, 6-2: M Zahirovic (Bosna) tri M Lee 4-8, 6-4, 6-1, A Foster bit T Spints 6-7, 6-3, 8-4; N West bit G Beenoer (Be) 6-0, 6-4; A Popp (Ger) bit Fox 7-5, 7-6; A Parmer bit P Robinson 6-2, 6-2; L Miligan bit L Parties 6-1, 6-3; A Wahnwagin bit L Partens 6-3, 6-4; T Managrave (Aus) bit J Ward 6-8, 3-8, 7-6; N Egorove (Russ) bit B Loogen (Ger) 6-1, 6-1.

C. A windsurfer

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

in the last two Refreshers we have looked at some straightforward reasons for ducking the opening lead when playing in a suit contract. The next example is a little more

±65

¥5

+KQJ874 **+**J953 **eKJ108 +9743** ¥J10643 4KQ982 +1096 8 →KQ8 **≜**AQ2 ¥A7 **♦A53 4A7642** Contract: Five Clubs by South. Lead: ten of clubs Three No-Trumps is a

laydown contract, but North was worried about his weak majors. Nevertheless he should just have raised Two No-Trumps to Three No-Trumps. Six Clubs is with the odds - all it needs is a 2-2 trump break or West holding Kxx or Qxx. But as always. when dummy comes down you should concentrate on making the contract you are in, rather than wasting energy on what might have been.

Clearly, if the spade finesse is right or if clubs break 2-2 there will be no problem but what if East has the KQ8 of trumps and West the king of spades? If you win the ace of clubs and start on diamonds East will probably ruff the second or third and play a spade. If you rise with the ace and cross to dummy with a heart ruff to play another diamond, he will ruff again

and the defence will cash the

king of spades.

The solution is to duck the ten of clubs. At first glance this looks a strange play but what can West do? If he has a trump to play, you can win and claim the rest of the tricks; suppose, instead he plays a heart. You win, cash the ace of clubs and start on your diamonds. East can ruff in and switch to a spade but you rise with the ace, and claim the remainder, discarding your losing spades on dummy's diamonds.

☐ The Times Book of Bridge 1, a compendium of some of Robert Sheehan's daily columns, is now available in all good bookshops or direct from the publisher, B. T. Batsford, on 01376 321276, price £6.99 (plus El postage and packing). Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PAPAUMU a. A Hawajian skirt

b. A maritime laboratory

PROPOSITA a. Proposed measures b. A female originator c. Part of a syllogism

ROSHI a. A hot alcoholic drink b. A Buddhist leader c. Roasted Indian bread

Answers on page 46

g6 d6 6 Nh3 26 Qe8 Bd7 16 Rb1 gx14 K/7 20 Rub7 Qg6 Rc2 R8c3 23 Ba3 24 Rc1 Pxc2 Nxd5 27 Rxd7 28 Ng3

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene CHESS CORRESPONDENT

European junior

concluded European junior championship in Tallinn were as follows: Dimitri Tyomkin (Israel) 8½/11, Jonathan Rowson (Scotland) 8, Nikolia Belichev (Ukraine) and Hristos Banikas (Greece) 75. Of the British representatives the most successful was Jonathan Rowson of Scotland who took the silver medal. England was represented by Harriet Hunt who took overall eighth place. Here is one of Rowson's victories.

White: Andrey Belozerov Black: Jonathan Rowson Europe Junior, Tallinn, 1997 **Dutch Defence**

32 h4 33 Rxh7 34 Rh5 35 Kh1 Leading scores in the recently-

No4 Qd4+ White resigns

Ne3



Martell Trophy

The Martell Trophy, a knockout competition for London clubs, which has already run for two seasons, has been won by the team from Simpson'sin-the-Strand, who defeated the Hurlingham B team in the final. Martell have now announced that they will not be sponsoring this event for a third season. However, the event will continue into 1998 under the umbrella of the Mind Sports Olympiad.

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

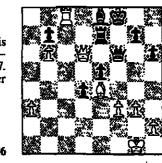
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

30 Rxa7+

White to play. This position is from the game Prokopchuk — Sakalauskas, Poland 1997. Can you spot White's clever winning combination?

Solution on page 46



SPORT / BROADCASTING

Julian Muscat tracks the greyhound chasing a treble chance

Some Picture in the frame for glory

n the smoke-filled bowels of Britain's dilapidated greyhound stadiums, they will congregate in their thou-sands for a televised transmission. Those farther afield will trust to their radios. Even the Pope could not pack them in any tighter at Shelbourne Dublin, tomorrow night, when Some Picture, hailed as the first millionpound greyhound, departs from trap five on a frantic

dash towards history. Having negotiated 15 eliminators and seven kilometres in sustaining the dream, just 480 metres now stand between Some Picture and the canine Triple Crown. The greyhound community has been expectant for months. Some have even draped it in the cloak of a religious cult. Never before has any dog bounded to victory in the Scottish, English and Irish Derbys. It is little wonder that Some Picture has been hailed as a messiah in an ailing sport. Of course, tales of four-

legged creatures in search of the holy grail have become commonplace. In horse racing, Silver Charm, having won the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness Stakes, came up inches short in the Belmont Stakes, the concluding leg of the North American Triple Crown. On the same day in June Entrepreneur, a 2,000 Guineas winner and a candidate for the British Triple Crown, was brutally exposed in the Derby at Epsom. Yet Some Picture's assault on the greyhound summit equates to the scaling of Everest's

blackest face. Consider, for instance, the dismissive riposte from William Hills when representatives of Imperial Tobacco. instigators of the £100,000 Triple Crown bonus, approached the bookmaking giant to "insure" their liability. Odds of 100-i, duly taken by Imperial Tobacco, implied that the concept was fantasy.

Consider, also, the fact that winning the English Derby often heralds a greyhound's immediate retirement. Pursuing the Irish equivalent has proved so elusive that to even attempt it was considered pure folly. Then there was the contracted on his arrival in Ireland. The hosts winked knowingly, muttering openly about excuses being contrived in advance.



Some Picture's dash towards the Triple Crown has rekindled interest in a sport seemingly on the wane

Yet the evidence was quickly before them: Some Picture progressed through the qualifiers, despite his physical frailty. Now, with a week's rest under his girth, he is reported to be fighting fit for the biggest night in 70 years of licensed

greyhound racing. Win or lose, experts maintain that Some Picture has already usurped the legends

who surface regularly in pub

quizzes. Names like Mick The Miller, who, in a White City stadium attracting footballsized crowds in the 1930s, carried off successive Derbys before fighting dogs on the track rendered his third victory null and void. Or Scurlogue Champ, who would tail himself off before summoning panther-like strides to snare his opponents. Or Ballyregan Bob, whose record

detail to Charlie Lister, who trains Some Picture in Nottingham. Lister is the antidote to decades of Ireland's selfdeclared superiority in handling greyhounds. Some still question his credentials, reluctant to accord him parity with their country's finest. Al-though Lister will not be drawn on the Anglo-Irish issue, the British cogniscenti insist that this quiet, intense individual can mix it with the

winning sequence of 32,

gained in the Racing Post World Challenge, was broad-cast live on the BBC's Nine

All of this remains idle

O'Clock News in 1986.

He will certainly have to tomorrow, when a capacity 7,500 crowd — the all-ticket event could have been sold many times over - will be baying for their own. Howconnected from the hype because his dogs are his children. In clipped, awkward sentences, he acknowledges the historical context, the

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other words.

£100,000 banus, the powerful spotlight on the sport he adores — but only to highlight the plight of kennel hands: The most underpaid people in any sport."

The words flow only when Lister, formerly a timber merchant, talks about Some Picture in the human terms of the layman. "This dog is so friendly and kind, it's unbelievable. Hell put his paw out for you and everything, always pleased to see you, and well behaved. Really, he is just like a child." This hardly squares. with the layman's image of the greyhound, all wire-muzzled, teeth bared, growling, barking, occasionally snapping at opponents along the way.

paradox applies equally to Some Picture's value. Greyhound racing is perceived as a seedy that from the sandpits of Walthamstow, and Wimbledon can rise animals worth seven-figure sums. Victory tomorrow would take Some Picture's earnings close to E250,000. Win or lose, it will be his last race before he embarks on stud duties that could earn his owner. Steve Spiteri, more

than El00,000 a year.

The portents for that elusive Triple Crown are encourage ing. Some Picture is free of the knocks invariably sustained in the gruelling qualifying rounds of the Irish Derby. "I don't normally get carried away but this whole thing is a bit special," Lister said. "I'll probably feel it most when put him into his trap. Even if he wins, I'll be upset to see the last of him." The only person not sharing that sentiment will be the William Hills representative who laid those 100-1 odds. The look on his face would make some picture.

Answers from page 45 PAPAUMU

(b) A small evergreen tree or shrub, Griselinia littoralis, belonging to the family Cornaccae, native to New Zealand, and distinguished by thick ovate leaves with shir upper surfaces. The Maor word. "Broadlest, papauma (Griselinia littoralis) is a common hardwood tree

SAILAB (a) A method of cultivation used in the Indus basin in Pakistan and northern India in which the land is irrigated by flood-water from the rivers. From the Hindi and Ponjabi for a flood or a torrent, the Persian sail flowing + ab water. The total area in the Indus basin, along different rivers, cultivated annually after inundation or sailah, was about 2.17 million acres. This tion was referred to as

PROPOSITA (b) A female propositus: an individual who was the first member of a family to come to the notice of a researcher, and through whom investigati a pedigree began. From the feminine past participle of the Latin proponers to put forward. "A study of 12 different blood group systems in the proposita and her parents failed to exclude paternity."

ROSHI (b) The spiritual leader of a community of Zen Buddhist nonks. Transliteration of the Japanese word, "She's sort of like an elderly Zen priest, an old roshi who after years of Work and study has distilled a large burden of 'knowledge' into a single gem of wisdom which he renders in a single baiku."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE I Rxe8+! Kxe8 2 Bg6+ Kf8 3 Qd8+

Eclair's funny side of life

Channel 5, 8.00pm

As this show, for reasons of topicality, is being recorded close to transmission no preview tapes were available. But the choice of host should give a good idea of what to expect. Jenny Eclair, winner of the Perrier Award at Edinburgh in 1995, is one of the least inhibited of the current breed of female comics and normally let loose on the viewing public only well after the watershed. Hence much of the interest will lie in seeing how far she has to tone down her material for family viewing. The guess is that she will not be tamed too much. The series promises guests, gossip and consumer tips and will be broadly inspired by the past week's news, hence the need to put it together at the last minute. The ingredients are less inriguing than the prospect of what Eclair will make of them.

Ground Force BBC2, 8.30pm

The garden makeover series continues to be as much entertainment as instruction. With Alan Titchmarsh as anchor it could hardly be anything else. Perhaps the jokes do not flow quite as freely as in previous programmes but tonight's show, from a water mill in Sussex rarely keeps a straight face for long. With the husband kept cut of the ways the for long. With the husband kept out of the way the challenge is to transform his garden in two days on. a budget of £750. Gardening purists may object that the refurbishment is more about carpentry than horticulture, for the two main tasks are to unan normalitime, for the two main tasks are to build a wooden deck over the sluice and to construct a screen of willow to give privacy from the adjoining lane. But Titchmarsh manages to do a bit of planting, as well as giving us the benefit of his wisdom on maners from dealing with mole hills to choosing garden ornaments.

Dangerfield BBC1, 9.30pm

Tony McHale is one of those seasoned television writers whose name on the credits is a guarantee of a well-worked script that juggles several plots at the same time and keeps then spinning until it is time to call a halt. His Dangerfield episode does not discovered to the company of the com not disappoint, encompassing a hostage taking, a further instalment in the slow-burning romance of



Jigh draff.

The divine Miss Midler (BBCl, 10.20pm)

Dr Paul (Nigel Le Vaillant) and DS Helen (Nicola Cowper) and light relief from the voluble Angela (Marcia Warren), a receptionist from hell. The outcomes are mainly predictable for Dangerfield, despite its dark moments, is a comfortable show which does not set out to give the viewer nightmares. Sandra Maidland, who as Mandy Jordache of Brookside killed her husband and buried him under the patio, guests as a woman whose road crash sparks the main storyline.

BBC1, 10.25pm

As star quality goes, Bette Midler may not match up to previous subjects of this series such as Bob-Hope or Bing Crosby. But her 1979 confrontation, with Michael Parkinson (interview is too tame aword) was a rousing affair and well worth recalling as an instance of an unruly guest-upstaging an increasingly ratified host. It is to Parkinson's credit that he keeps his composure as well as he does. To a large entent, of course, Midleries playing up to the ourrageous image she was carefully constructing as the world started taking notice of her. She appears in a dress cut so low that from some angles there seems almost no top to it and proceeds in her shrill and vulgar way to take over the show. Accusing Parky of wearing a wig is over the show. Accusing Parky of wearing a wig is the least of it. In keeping with that show tradition; plugs for her new (in 1979) album and film. The Rose, are not overlooked.

Peter Waymark

I realise there are a certain number of Radio 4

traditionalists who will keel over and froth at the mouth at the prospect of Gerry. Anderson returning to the network: they thought that having booed Anderson Country off the air they had heard the last of the man. But at least this latest series of

programmes is finite (there are four) and they only last 15 minutes. They also, as it happens, confirm

that Anderson is an excellent broadcaster who was

simply placed in the wrong context with Anderson Country. Now he is back, this time trying to

discover why continental Europe has taken such a liking to Irish pubs given that, as Anderson says, the Irish aren't used to being liked, let alone being

Gerry's Bar

Rodio 4, 9.45am

Lunchtime Concert Radio 3, 1.00pm

This slot in the Radio 3 schedules was given more coherence in the recent programme shuffle, especially as there is now a Saturday concert as well as one each weekday for jaded office workers. well as one each weekday for jaded office workers. Today, and for a further seven Fridays, the concert comes live from St George's Church on Brandon Hill in Bristol and each concert, titled Double Take, will feature a new approach to familiar work. Today the series begins with a concert by two planists. David Nettle and Richard Markham. The classical works they are playing are by Brahms. Debussy and Ravel, but the concert also includes arrangements by Nettle and Markham of two numbers from West Side Story: Tonight and America.

7.00am Mark Raddite 9.09 Sknon Meyo 12.00 Jo Whiley. Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodler 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Pete Tong: Essential Selection 10.00 One in the Jungle on Your. Live from Edinburgh's Mange Club 12.00 Radio 1 Rep Show 3.00mm Charlie Jordan

Bruse 11,30 Jimmy Young 1,30pm Disne Louise Jorden 3,30 Ken. Bruse 11,30 Jimmy Young 1,30pm Disne Louise Jorden 3,00 Ed Stewart \$3,65 Johnnie Weiter 7,00 Dents Custley Shales the Best of Times 7,30 Friday Night is Music Night Robin Staplishon conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra from the Hippodomine, Goldens Green, London 9,15 The Teilor of Penama. John le Carré reads part nine of his latest book 9,30 Listen to the Band 10,00 The Arts Programme 12,05em Jon Briggs

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am Breaklast Programme 9.00 The Magazina 12.00 Midday 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 Naws Edna 7.30 Sportstalk 8.30 Friday Sport. Includes Huddersfield Town v Nottingham Forest 10.00 Paper Telk 11.00 Naves Edna 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Nick Abbot 7.00am Russ and Jono's Brea Experience 10,00 Graham Dene 1,00pm Jeremy Clerk 4.00 (FM) Robin Benks (AM) Nicky Home 7,00 (FM) Peut Coyte (AM) Celmin Jones 10,00 Mark Forrest 2,00em Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30cm Bill Overton and Carol McGitten 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lonaine Kelly 2.00cm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Pater Deeley 7.00 Moz Dee's Sportszona 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00cm Mike Dickin

WORLD SERVICE

8.00mm Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 The -6.00mm Newsday 8.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 The World Today 7.30 Muslime in Britain 8.00 News 8.15 Off the Shelf: The Portrat of a Lady 8.30 Music Review 9.00 News: News in German (648 only) 9.10 Pause for Thought 9.15 Performance 9.30 John Peel 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 History Today 10.30 BSC English: Speaking of English: 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdast 11.30 Plants of Power 12.00 Newsdask 12.30pm Focus on Faith 1.00 News: News in German (648 only): 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Ends of the World Business Report 1.15 British Today 1.20 Ends of the World 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.65 Cullols 3.30 Militarack Alismetive 4.00 News 1.05 Football 24th 4.15 Peradok 4.30 Science in Action, News in German (648 only) 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 British Today 6.00 News 6.15 The World Today 6.30 The Insider's Guide; News in German (648 only) 6.40 Spotlight 6.45 Sports Roundup 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Focus on Faith 8.00 News 5.00 Today 6.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Focus on Faith 8.00 News 1.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Focus on Faith 8.00 News 1.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Focus on Faith 8.00 News 1.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Focus on Faith 1.45 Newsdesk 1.45 British Today 1.030 People and Politics, 11.05 Newsdesk 11.30 From the Weeklies 1.45 British Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weeklies 1.45 British Today 2.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weeklies 1.45 British Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Paradox 2.45 The Insider's Guide 2.55 Spotlight 3.00 Newsdesk 3.30 People and Politics 4.400 News Spottight 3.00 Newsday 3.30 People and Politics 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 The World Today, Weekend (Europe only) 4.45 Off the Shelf

CLASSIC FM

6,00cm Alan Mann 9,00 Henry Kety, Includes the Hell of Feme Hour 1,00pm Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones 2.00 Concerto. Rechmanicov (Plano Concerto No 1. in F sharp minor) 3.00 Jamie Crick 7.00 Newsright with John Brunning, 7,30 Sonata. Schubert (Duo Sonata in A) 8.00 Evening Concept Wagner (Eine Faust-Ouverture); Beethoven (Piano Concertor No 1 in C); Gournot (Ballet Music born Faust); Schubert (Das Wendern); Schubert (Symphony No 3 in D) 10.00 Michael Mappin, Includes Noctume 2.00am Concerto (f) 4.00 Sally

6.00cm On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Elgar (Sevem Suite); Tchalkovsky (Serenade in C); Ravel (Valses Nobles et Sentimentales); Glazunov (Volin Concerto in A minor); Schubert (Pisno Sonate in F sharp minor)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Grieg (Lyric Pieces); Mozart (Pisno Trio in C)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mark Rowlinson. Includes Vaughan Williams (O Clap Your Hands); Dvorkik (The Wood Dove); Rachmaninov (Vocalise); Handel (Coronation Anthem No 4: My Heart is Indiang); Nielsen (Chaconne); Berber (Agnus Dei, Adagio); Kodaly (Suite Hary Janos)

12.00 Composers of the Weet: Schoenberg, Berg and Webern (Sounding the Century)

1.00pm News; Lumchtime Concert. See Choice 2.00 The BBC Archive. Donald Macleod introduces some memorable performances. Includes. Intensivews with Beanor Warren and Sir Nikoleus. Passer. Haydr (String Quarlet in E fiat); Bach. (Solo Cello Suite No 5 in C minor); Mendelssohn (Songs Without Words); Setie (Three Melodies 1916; Je te Veux)

4.00 Music Restored. A concert given lest July in the Holy Tirrity Church, Micklegete, York, Barbera Schläck, soprano, Peter Seymour, forteoleno. Mozart (Sel du Mein Trost; Sehnsucht Nach dem Frühling); Reichsarch (Rhapsodie; Erwin und Elmire; Neue Liebe; Wand'rers Nachtiled); Weber (Ioh denke dein; Das Mädchen an das) Erste

(Schneeglöckchen; Die gefangenen Sånger; Die freien Sänger) (f) 4.45 Music Machine, with Verity Sharp 5.60 in Tune. Sean Rafferty is joined by Claire Tomatin, whose biography of Jane Austern's published this

7.30 Performance on 3: Remeaur's Phates. Live from the Bathloan Hisetre, London, the Royal Opera's new production of Remeaur's comedy, directed by Mark Monts. Staning the French tenor Jean-Paul Fouchecourt in the title jole and Diarra Montague, and Francois Le Rour as-Juiss and Jupter. With Nicole Tibbels, soprano, Suissa Gritton, soprano, Mark Padmore, tenot; Royal Opera Chous, Orchestra of the Royal Opera Chous, Orchestra of the Royal Opera Chous, Orchestra of the Royal Opera House under Nicholes McCegoin, Prologue: Act 1 8.50 Postscript, Philip Hensher, author of Kitchen Venon, Introduced and reads from his next novel, Stow Thorsitie 9, 10 Plates, Acts 2 and 3 19.30 Heur and Now. Andrew Specting introduces. Germin, Includes Carter (Caron for Four, Homage to Wijsam, Carron for Three, in memoriem Igor Stravinsky, Scrivo in vento); Michael Zeir Gordon (Gravity and Grace I); Carter (Gra; Con Leggerezza Pensosa, Homage to Calvino; Riconocenze per Goffredo Petrasa); Pendereckt (Carinet Cusriet); Carter (Esprit Rude; Esprit Douc, Barolage; Enchanted Preludes)
12.00 Composer of the Weelic Pizzetti (f)
1.00am Songe from Salum, Jez Nelson tells the ston; of Sun Ra, the lazy band leader (f)
1.30 Through the Night, with Donaid Macleod 7.30 Performance on 3: Remeatr's Plate. Live from

6.09 Siz O'Clock News 6.30 Going Places, with David Stafford, includes the actress Janet Brown visiting Rye in East Sussex

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00am News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.45 The Complet Angler. Richard Johnson reads from Izsak Walton's boo of lishing lore. Abridged by Tony Ramsay (2/2) 8.58 Weather

9.00 News; Deport Island Discs; Peter O'Sulleven (r) 9.45 Genry's Ber. See Choice (1/4) 10.00 (FM) News; Old Stubborn Guts. The American writer and broadcaster Studs Turkel unlocks his personal archives (2/5)
10.00 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Shella McClennon
11.30 The Natural History Programme. Presented by

Joanna Pinnock
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm Derek Coopier's Necessary Pleasures. A
celebration of latchen gardens (r) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke at the Labour
Party conference and James Cox in London
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Seriet: Lorna Dogne. The final
part of R.D. Bleckmore's romantic novel, adapted
by Barry Letts (r)

part of H.D. Backmore's romantic novel, adapte by Barry Letts (r) 3.00 News: The Atternoon Shift, with Lauris Taylor 4.00 News 4.95 Kateldoscope. Tim Marlow reports from the opening right of a new production of Britten's opera The Turn of the Screw 4.45 Short Story: My Pather, by Damon Runyon. Read by Kerry Shale (r) 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Westher

actress Janet Brown visiting Rye in East Susser
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick; of the Week. Presented by Chris Serie
8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a
topical discussion in Portsmouth with penelists
including Hilary Weinwright and Emma Nicholson
8.50 Judging the Judges. Professor Simon Lee
examines the role of the senior judiciary. Lord
Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, take about how
expected constitutional change will affect the
judges role. (1/3)

expected constitutional change will affect the judges' role. (1/3)

9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke

9.30 Kalektoecope Feature: Shadowlands — Truth and Fiction. Humphrey Carpenter investigates the truth behind William Nicholson's play (1)

10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lusting

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Loitering with intent (10/10). 11.00 Week Ending. A new series of the satirical news show with Jon Glover, Sally Grace, Dave Lamb end Sarah Parkinson

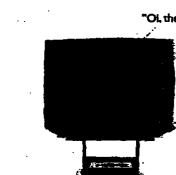
11.25 Fourth Column. The first of a new series of the programme that takes a sideways look at the week's events. 11.45 Beyond the Millennium. Sheers McDonald talks

11.45 Beyond the Millennium. Sheera McLionaid terreto the lubridget lan Peasson who predicts a
world in which robots are commonplace and fre
internet is still with us (4/8)

12.00 News 12.30sm The Late Book: Light in
August, by William Faultner (10/12)

12.48 (LW) Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Sentist.

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4.; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5. LIVE. MW 693, 909, WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am); CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Deer, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Land.



"Oi, there's a film on tonight with George Clooney in it".

Lister with Some Picture, "he is just like a child"

Would you like your TV to know what you want to watch?



THE TIMES FRIDAY OCTOBER 3 1997

High drama and low humour poorly mixed

ometimes television springs the most unexpected surprise. I mean, given the choice between the wonderful Warren Clarke in a new BBC drama or an TIV thriller in which its finishtened or too mismostrat. Leslie Grantham plays a Norfolk policeman whose body has been occupied by aliens, it should be no contest. Clarke every time, right? Not at the moment it isn't.

I cannot stand The Locksmith (BBCI), which for those already confused is the one in which Clarke wears a pained expression throughout. This might express regret that his body has not been taken over by aliens (which at least would give him an excuse) or simply a profound wish that he had read the script more carefully — we are not told.

For the second week running, as the action lurched unhappily from high emotion to humour marooned somewhere between sizpstick and schoolboy, I got the

too frightened or too unimportant to be able to scream "No."

wife (Sheila Kelley), whose severe head injury means she has forgotten that she hates him, to comic nonsense involving wigs, bare bottoms and bad backs. This is unfair not just on us but also on Clarke For Clarke was not designed for emoting. Ask those famously craggy features to crum-ple and they will ... but you had

Barry, Bill has created television's first really charmless git, the sort As a result we move uncomfort- of oaf who picks out Always Look ably from Clarke emoting his on the Bright Side while an elderly socks off in scenes with his former widow mourns her beloved Highland terrier, which has just been found in all-too-convincing bits. On paper, you can still just about see that this could theoretically have been funny. But on screen, with Jean Heywood acting serious distress, it wasn't. "Does this work?" I heard a timid voice ask.

The Locksmith; those reasons have been tossed away in the ill-judged pursuit of "laffs" and "lager".

Which bring us to Barry, the pivotal Minder-esque character who might have brought the brought t

REVIEW

Matthew

Bond

everything ever written by Brian Clemens and breathtakingly silly. It centres on the villagers of Sweethope, all of whom miraculously survived the huge evolution that model their Fact explosion that toppled their East Coast village into the sea, and all of whom have gone on to be terrifically successful. The question is -

as always - are these people really

everything that they appear to be? Well, it didn't need Leslie

tell us the answer to that one. The Uninvited knows it's hokum, but it's honest hokum, played straight but quietly acknowledging that it is taking us down a familiar path. Last week, as our hero raced through the East Anglian countryside in his sports car, the camera lingered on a junk-shop mannequin: Whether the head turned, as you half expected, or not, as was actually the case, didn't matter. The dues had been paid.

Dues that last night allowed Leslie Grantham, playing a Norfolk noticeman whose brush with aliens has miraculously left him with a London accent, to ask: "Tell me what I should be afraid of?" and for Steve, our photographer hero (a commendably straightfaced Douglas Hodge) to answer: "The truth." Well, it must be out there somewhere, I suppose. Why not Norfolk? Last night the plot moved on to

Grantham's eyes to turn white to break far from new ground by episode two nearly everyone had involving a sinister corporation manufacturing even more sinister computer software. Its smiling employees ("welcome to the future. friend') wear different coloured uniforms and are ordered about by Tannoy. Don't know about you, but it reminded me of Teletubbies.

> mong the cast, Lia Wil-A liams, playing librarian and potential love interest, probably takes top honours, although as everyone else is playing either aliens or journalists (much of a muchness in performance terms) this is perhaps not the accolade it might have been. At least the arrival of Jean Anderson, having fun playing the alien who had the bad luck to take over a human being suffering from Alzheimer's, gave her competition. "We are two, not one," she croaked, shortly before her eyes went white, too. At the end of

been dead at least once, which if I've got the plot right means they'll all be back in time for episode three. Can't wait.

Finally, Lonely Planet (Channel 4) returned and once again reminded us that the best reason for not travelling to far-flung foreign parts is to avoid a chance encounter with Ian Wright. Fast Showlampooning has changed him not one jo'. Glottal-stops primed, baseball cap on back to front - off we went again, although what Ethiopia had done to deserve him 1 wasn't sure. Wasn't poverty, famine and war enough?

Wright remains supremely jar-ring company (check this out yee haw") but fair do's: he did manage to make the country look like somewhere the more intrepid among us might like to visit. It was, he concluded, "a right mindblower". Nevertheless, I think I'll

BBC1

A in black

Um contra

anding Us

6:00am Business Breakfast (25311) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (82001951) 9.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (3186135) 9,30 Style Challenge (8370985) 9.55 Kilroy (T) (7778992)

10,35 Change That in Cambridge (8618932) 11,00 News (T) Regional News and weather

11.05 Labour Party Conference '97 The day's proceedings in Brighton (33184883) 1:00pm News (1) and weather (15086) £30 Regional News (73977203) **£40** The Weather Show (32183406) 1.45 Neighbours (T) (71693715)

2.10 Quincy The coroner's abilities are called into question when he testifies against a mobster accused of inducing a tatal heart attack (r) (8615661) 3.00 Through the Keyhole (5241)

3.30 Playdays (8339241) 3.50 Dear Mr Barker (8319203) 4.05 The All New Popeye Show (1216999) 4.15 Casper (6571932) 4.35 Record Breakers (1)(8141406) 5.00 Newsround (1) (2415845) 5.10 Blue Peter

(T) (9814970) 5.35 Neighbours(r) (T) (822425) 6,00 Six O'Clock News (7) and weather (64) 6,30 Regional News (16)

7:00 Weekend Watchdog with Arme Robinson The team take a close look at tour operators, antique dealers and hire car companies (T) (7222) 7.30 Top of the Pops Exclusives, new videos

and live performances, plus a rundown of the Top 40 (1) (28) 8.00 Vets in Practice Joe faces a dilemma

over whether to treat a dog's ear problem, even though its owner cannot afford treatment. On the personal front, Joe's love life takes a nosedive and Hannah is vexed by niggling doubts (1) (6970)

8.30 Children's Hospital A jour-year-old with. diseased ovaries undergoes an operation which will cure her but less Intertile. Elsewhere, a youngster receives speech therapy (1) (2777)

9,00 Nine O'Clock News (I) and weather

Dengarfield: House Calls A woman is left shaken following a careless mistake at the wheel, but

situation (T) (704715) 10.20 The Nation's Favourite Love Po Viviana Durante reads Love Sonnet 44, by Pablo Neruda (966890)

Pablo Neruda (966890)

Larger-than-life star of stage and screen Bette Midler in a vintage

and screen below returned in a value interview (1) (486067)

11.05 For the Boge (1991) Bette Midler and James Cean Star as wartine entertainers boosting the tideals of US troops overseas. Directed by Mark Rydelf (1)

(93523048)
1.20am A Town Called Hell (1973) staring
Flobert Shaw, Telly Savalas and Madain
Landau, Based on fact Medican resolutionaries hunt down a driest wife. It
worshipped by the local people. Directed
by Robert Parrish (697636) 2.55 Weather (3091471)

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The numbers next to each TV programme
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ellow you to programme your video records
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the Video Plus-Code for the programme you
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6.00em OU: Social Problems and Social Welfare Course Review (2218609) 6.25 Survival Strategies (2297116) 6.50 Bulls, Bears and China Shops (9593628) 7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T) (2809558)

(2809558)
7.30 Smartir Adventures (r) (4601715) 7.55
Smart (T) (8266244) 8.20 William's Wish
Wellingtons (r) (8513135) 8.25 Wishing (r)
(9532114) 8.35 Teletubbies (r) (9923135)
9.00 Cartoon (3813390) 9.10 Music
Makers (7471680) 9.30 Watch (8831425)
9.45 Come Outside (8929680) 10.00
Teletubbies (67951) 10.30 Look and
Read (7833864) 10.80 The Art (785628)
11.10 Landmarks (5618628) 11.30 11.10 Landmarks (5618828) 11.30

English File (3864) 12.00 Scene (46883) 12.30pm Working Lunch (73425): 1.00 The Little Polar Bear (r) (55311390): 1.05 Pingu (r) (55310661) 1.10 The Countryside Hour. Dorset and Wiltshire

(7949203)
2.10 Wildliffe on Two Bee-eaters in Kenya (f)
(i) (36116203) 2.40 News and weather
(ii) (3033390)
2.45 Match of the Seventies (f) (i) (8208048) 3.25 News (ii) (4222796) 3.30 Real Rooms (f) (5543131) 3.55 Consuming Passions: broccoli with a taste of the Orient (f) (9890996) 4.00 Ready, Steady Cook (57) 4.30 Going, Going, Gone (8140777) 4.55 Esther: single-sex schools (8069406) 5.30 Today's the Day [93]

6.00 Star Trek (r) (T) (658574)

6.50 The O Zone Robbie Williams performs his new single and Paul Weller on his new video (427715) 7.00 The Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race After two weeks at sea the fleet begins to split (5864)

7.30 Top Gear Motorsport Rallycross Superprix, Eurocar action at Castle Combe, and Formula Ford in review (70) 8.90 The Big Catch The Scottish glant skate, nicknamed "the barn doors" (T) 74512)

Ground Force Alan Titchmarsh and his team of experts set about revamping a Sussex watermili garden (T) (5749) 9.00 Red Dwarf Lister meets old flame



Reeves and Mortimer (9.30pm) 9:30 Shooting State Among those joining Reeves and Modimer in the fun and games tonight are East 17 and Roll Hartis (T) (53681)

10.00 Jenny Ecien's Pick'n'Mix (1) (47512) 10:26 Video Nation Shorts (963593) 10:30 Newshight (160777) 11:15 VR 5

(1) (145628) 12.00 Patiabor (1989) Animated cops and obsers fantasy. Directed by Memoru Oshij (275742)

1:40am Quantum Leap Sam and Alia leap Into a women's prison (r) (T) (1422810) 2.25 Weather (8074346)

6.00am GMTV (4331154) .9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (3182319) 9.55 Regional News (9288654) 10.00 The Time, the Place (61777) 10.30 This Morning (1) (77957661) 12.20pm Regional News (8479661) 12.30 News (1) and weather (5821512) 12.55 WALES: Grass Roots (r) (T) (5806203)

12.55 Dogs with Dunber (5606203) 1.25 Home and Away (1) (76266390) 1.50 Murder, She Wrote (r) (9318864) 2.50 The Pulse (I) (9659970) 2.50 Garden Calendar (I) (9659970)

3.20 News (1) (4210951) 3.25 Regional News (4219222)

3.30 Jays' World (8333883) 3.40 Titch (9826154) 3.50 Oscar and Friends (9822338) 4.00 Roger and the Rottentrolls (1) (8718203) 4.15 Hurricanes (T) (6580680) 4.40 Fun House (T) (7642852) 5.10 A Country Practice (3205883) 5.40 News (T) and weather (576113)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (849628) 6.25 HTV Weather (725609) 6.30 HTV News (T) (12) · 7.00 Emmerdale Kim's new business partner has a proposition for Kathy (T) (2390)

7.30 Coronation Street Maureen makes a momentous decision (T) (96) 8,00 The Bill: Free to Speak Will Slater saduce Keane when he takes her out for a romantic dinner? (8338)

8.30 Strange But True? More true-life stories of the supernatural, including Britain's No. 1 UFO hot spot and the sinister beast stalking the Durham dales (1) (7845)



Val McLane, Perdita Weeks star (9pm)

9.00 Catherine Cookson's The Rag Nymph First of a three-part drama about a young girl adopted by a rag lady efter her mother commits suicide (T) (6067) 10,00 News (T) and weather (41338)

10,30 Regional News (568425) 10.40-12.40 WALES: The Freshman (1990) with Marion Brando, Matthew Broderick and Bruno Kirby. A naive college student lands what he thinks is a job of a lifetime, but he soon realises that he is, in fact

working for an ageing Maria don.
Directed by Andrew Bergman (78676116)
10.40 Late and Live With guest Stuart Higgins,
editor of The Sun (5638661) 12.10am Campus Cops (4664520) 12.40 The Paul Ross Show (3609891) 2.10 King of the Wind (1989) with Richard Harris, Jenny Agutter and Nigel Hawthrone. The story of an 18th-century

thoroughbred Arabian stallion. Directed by Peter Duffell (389926) 3,55 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (37437181) 4.25 Cool Vibes (97846029) 4.35 Coach (r) (56465723) 5.00 Coronation Street (91988) 5.30 News

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (5806203) 2.50-3.20 Surprise Chefs (9659970) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3205883)

6.25 Central News (824319) 6.55-7.00 Debtbusters: Lifeline (796357) 10.40 Central Weekend Live (5638661) 2.10am The LADS /1768839

2.40 Cool Vibes (9396810) 2.50 Box Office America (5598568) 3.20 Baywatch (8599549) 4.10 Central Jobfinder '97 (6506907) 5.20 Asian Eye (7353278)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.20pm-12.30 illuminations (8479661) 12.55 Home and Away (5806203) 1.25 Spill the Beans (46994715) 1.55 Westcountry Update (71675319) 2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (8629864) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3205883) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (78970) 10.30 Westcountry News (559777)

10.45 Film: Blow Out (1981). A thriller staring John Travolta, directed by Brian De Palma (78981777)

AND METHODOLOGY

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (5306203) 1.50 Serve You Flight (71676048) 2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (7373628) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3205883) 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (78970) 10,30 Meridian News and Weather (559777) 10.45 Chiller (923357)

11.45 Wiseguy (851777)

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (8498796) 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (5806203) 1.50 A Splash of Colour (71676048) 2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (7373628) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3205883) 6.23 Anglia Weather (726338)

6.25-7.00 Anglia News (107425) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (967319) 10.30 Anglia News Extra (50086) 11.00 Film: Blood from the Mummy's Tomb

(641883)

56 Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (38339) 9.00 Ysgolion (590796) 11.30 Here's One

9.00 Ysgorion (380/99) 11.30 here's One i Made Earlier (8932) 12.00 Sesame Street (31951) 12.30pm Ricki Lake (68593) 1.00 Slot Methrin (3274116) 1.15 Slot Syniadau Sali (32779999) 1.30 The Adventures of Tintin (71681970) 1.55 Racing from Newmarket (71385116) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (25) 4.30 Out (71385116) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (25) 4.30 Out of Africa (39) 5.00 5 Pump (4757593) 5.15 Mynd Drot Drot (2410390) 5.30 Countdown (61) 6.00 Newyddion (272932) 8.10 Heno (672154) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (953715) 7.25 Y Sioe Gelf (202864) 8.00 Yms Mae 'Nghan (9680) 8.30 Newyddion (8715) 9.00 Ffnsyth Lisfur (111864) 9.45 Pond Life (488067) 10.00 Brookside (469380) 10.35 Friends (950131) 11.05 Brookside (469380) 10.35 Friends (950131) 11.05 Jo Brand: Like it or Lump it (922609) 11.35 King of the Hill (988425) 12.05em TFI Friday (2740487) 1.05 Film: Project A, Part II (765100) 3.05 Robin (18241636) 3.10 Film:

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (93951) 7.00 The Big eaktast (38339) 9.00 Schools: Off Limits (3170574) 9.25 Schools at Work (3990067) 9,30 Eureka! (T) (8926593) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (T) (8926593) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (T) (6498970) 10.02 Lost Animals (3711406) 10.10 TVM (T) (2796241) 10.25 Caraldean (2791796) 10.40 Top (7842512) 11.00 Robert Burns (T) (667299)

11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier Salad of eggs florentine; roast duckling and Peking pancakes; chocolate almond layer cake (1) (8932)

12.00 Sesame Street (31951) 12.30pm Ablaze in Provence (r) (T) (8493951)1.25

A Child's Grief (r) (T) (46992357)
1.55 Racing from Newmarket The 2.05,
2.35, 3.05 and 3.40 races (71385116) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (25) 4.30 Countdown (T) (8135845) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (8054574) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (61)

6.00 TFI Friday The guests include Uri Geller (76512) 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (326883) 7.55 Music of the Millennium Gary Barlow's choice (637425)

8.00 Garden Party Tom Barber and the team are joined by the actress Thelma Barlow for a visit to Arley Hall in Cheshire (T)

8.30 Brookside Jimmy has difficulty with country lite. Will Lisa agree to help Max and Susannh become parents? (1)



9.00 Friends Chandler dates a woman with a handicap. Phoebe objects to her song Smelly Cat being used in an advertisement. Sherilyn Fenn makes a guest appearance (T) (727574)

9.35 Cybill Cybill goes out on a date with a man who claims to have always been a fan of hers (1) (166785)

10,00 Frasier Frasier and Niles invite dates on a romantic weekend vacation (T) (32680) 10.30 Jo Brand: Like It or Lump It Stand up and sketches (T) (449796)

11.05 King of the Hill (1) (922609) 11.35 TFI Friday (r) (593241) 12.35am Project A, Part II (1987) A kung fu

romp in turn-of-the-century Hong Kong, directed by and starring Jackle Chan (428907) 2.35 Robin Adult animation (3071617)

2.40 Blackmail (1929, b/w) Anny Ondra and Donald Calthrop star in a thriller about a young woman who is blackmailed after stabbling a man in self defence. Affred Hitchcock's first talkie (T) (3527617) 4.10 The Ticket A turny modern nightmare

4.45 Takeover TV Public-access television (r) 5.15 Fluke (r) (41452)

CHANNE 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE

Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. transponder No 63 on the Astra Satislite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (2256319)

7.30 Milkshake (7279116) 7.35 USA High (r) (7869898) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (8650715) 8.30 WideWorld How Rome became part of Napoleon's European Empire (3/12)

9.00 Espresso (5822067) 10.00 Exclusive (r) (6561390)

10.30 Treasure Islands: Island of the Bears
The brown bears of Alaska's coastal region (r) (T) (8639222) 11.00 Leeza (9410785) 11.50 Double Espresso

(44554338) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8620574) 12.30pm Family Aflairs (r) (T) (4215195) 1.00 5 News (99420999) 1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (1670951) 2.00 5's Company (4964357) 3.30 True Confections (1991) with Leslie
Hope, Jill Riley and Kyle McCulloch. Set
in 1950s Winnipeg, the story of three

Jewish triends being constantly nagged by their families to find a husband. rected by Gail Singer (3097116)

5.20 5's Company (55243425) 5.30 Whittle (1) (863338) 6.00 100 Per Cent (8623951) 6.30 Family Affairs (1) (8614203) 7.00 Name That Tune

Abba tribute band (8643715)



Jenny Ectair (8.00pm)

8.00 Jenny Eclair Squats A new cornedy series starring the first woman to win the Perner Award 8.30 5 News (T) (6476048)

9.00 The Fatal Image (1990) with Michelle
Lee and Justine Bateman A holiday in
Paris for a mother and daughter turns into
a struggle for survival. Directed by

Thomas Wright (69580796) 10.50 La Femme Nikita Nikita gets close to a money-launderer (2743835)

11.45 Live Nude Girls (1995) with Dana
Delany and Kim Catirali. A hen-party
goes haywire when triends begin to reminisce. Directed by Julianna Lavin (4690086)

1.35em The Norseman (1978) starring Lee
Majors and Cornel Wilde. A Viking prince
searches tor his missing tather. Directed
by Charles B Pierce (1927365) 3.10 Spare the Rod (1961) Max Bygraves as

an idealistic teacher at a tough school.

Directed by Leslie Norman (1991100) 4.45 Burke's Law (2627704) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (5707704)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision. published on Saturday SKY 1

6.00am Morring Glory (\$81315) 8.00 Regis and Katrie Lee (70512) 10.00 Another World (39880) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (20116) 12.00 Opeals Winkey (19244) 1.00pm Geneldo (18512) 2.00 Selly Jessy (Reghael (15512) 2.00 Jerny Jones (18045) 4.08 Oprah Winkey (2083) 5.00 Size Trek. Tip. Next Generation (4777) 8.00 Resi IV (7267) 6.30 Mested, with Children (8609) 7.00 The Simpsubs (5406) 7.30 Mr/S-11 (7993) 8.00 Highlander (40135) 9.00 Walker, Texas Runger (80999) 10.00 Extra. Time (87154) 10.30 Stand and Deliver (8374) 11.00 Stat Trek. The Next Genera-

6.00am The Buildy System (1954) (31456) 8.00 Heart Like a Wised (1963) (3148) 8.00 Heart Line a Wissel (1983) (4824) 18.00 The Long Summar of George Admirs (1982) (5645116) 11.40 Problem Citld III (1985) (1407057). 1.10pm The Books System (1984) (7251925) 3.00 Options (1989) (59425) 5.00 The Care and Handling of Roses (1986) (3205) 7.00 Problem Child III (1985) (32693) 9.00 Subrine (1985) (3230) 11.00 The Movie Show (778280) 14.01 Sensel (1985) (556408) (556408) (556408) 11.40 Securit Ordinara (1985) (505408) 1.20am Funny Bouse (1985) (47409549) 3.30 Only When LLungh (1981) (552033)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 2278119, 2.00 Full Throttle (5627929) 8.30

8.30 cm The Tulk T (1967) (5220339) 7.50

Morning Glory (1953) (7535113) 9.05

Morning Glory (1953) (753513) 9.05

Morning Glory (1953) (1953) 9.05

Morning Glory (1953) 9.05

Morning Morning (1953) 9.

4.00pm The Foxes of Herrow (1947) (4907970) 6.00 June # (1978) (1989593) 8.00 She's Having a Beby (1985) (1990338) 10.00 Kung Fiz The Movie (1986) (6247048) 1.135 Cherry 2000 (1987) (6347048) 1.15am The Skillian Chm (1988) (4184549) 3.16 Roving, with the Wind (1987) (471889) 4.45 Close

Rouring Twenties (1939) [73019694) 11.00 Shoft (1971) (64463151) 1.00em Sye of the Davil (1967) (64358278) 3.00 The Rooring Twenties (1839) (43036433) SKY SPORTS 1;

SKY SPORTS 2

UK GOLD

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00mm Dumbo (4989) 6.39 Lamb Chop (77999) 7.00 Chip ini Dale (25837) 7.99 Cusck Pack (67864) 8.00 Dinocaus (13116) 8.30 Soniters (45715) 9.00 Gurrni Seass (3567) 9.30 Grounding Massh (9884929) 9.55 Poddington Peas (4742864) 10.00 Sasame Street (82548) 11.00 Winnie the Poch (904399) 11.15 Roals and Jim (2444804) 11.40 Sing Me a Story (3692339) 12.00 Tota TV (16203) 12.30pm (369331) 1.00 Sasame Sinet (71628) 2.00 Amazing Alimanis (2116) 2.30 Care Bears (2389) 3.00 Tale Sinn (4651) 3.30 Good Tycop (4529 4.00 Timo any Pumbas (3153 4.30 Aladdin (8319) 5.00 Gargoyles (3799) 5.30 Dinocaus (3999) 6.00 Algrimare Ned (3512) 6.30 Wonder Vasar (4864)

Joe Pesci and Robert De Niro in *Casino* (Movie Channel, 10.00pm)

8.00mm Delty (8088612) 6.30 Billy the Cat (2484870) 7.00 Pinocchio (6427241) 7.30 Power Rangers Zeo (6413048) 8.00 Beete-borgs (1409798) 8.30 Masked Rider (1408067) 8.00 Mage Box (1498319) 8.30 Dudley (8449703) 10.00 Inspector Gadget

6.00mm Hepply Ever After (52154) 6.30 Bobby's World (40845) 7.00 Spirru (71203) 7.30 Dennis Ire Menece (90339) 8.00 Bel-man (18300) 8.30 Bost Mester (1861) 9.00 Art Attijck (32241) 9.30 Earthworn Jim

(45203) 10.00 Gravedale High (64425) 10.30 Flash Gordon (38425) 11.00 Creepy Crawfers (79593) 11.30 Gigantor (86227) 12.00 Gravedale High (29777) 12.30 pm Bots Master (66319) 1.00 Betman (7657) 1.30 Esk the Cat (48380) 2.00 Creepy Crawfers (8360) 2.30 Flash Gordon (3357) 1.00 Sever. (7264) 3.30 Estitatory. Inc. 3.00 Sons: (7425) 3.30 Earthworm Jan (7574) 4.00 Dennis the Menace (6609) 4.30 Art Allack (5593) 5.00 Close

CARTOON NETWORK All your favourise canoons broadcast from 5.00am to 9.00pm, seven days a week. NICKELODEON

6.00mm Kiler Torretoes (93280) 8.30 Asahhi Real Monsters (43319) 7.00 Hey Arnold (74777) 7.30 Rugrats (86512) 8.00 Amots (*4777) 7:30 Hugrais (bts 12 3.00 Doug (8340) 8:30 CDBC (*4777) 10:30 Bebar (90241) 11.00 Magc School Bus (50241) 11.00 Magc School Bus (50319) 11.30 Bararias in Pylamas (50048) 12.00 Paddington Bear etc (81593) 12.30 pus Portland Bill etc (25425) 1.00 Dr Souss (73048) 1.30 Lutle Bear Stories (24796) 2.00 Jim Henson's Animal Show (2406) 4:30 CDBC 61541 30 CDBC (24/95) 2.00 Jam Hengon's Animal Show (74/95) 2.30 CBBC (5154) 2.00 CBBC (9241) 3.30 Asahhi Real Monsiers/Doug (7999) 4.00 Hey Amodi (64/95) 4.30 Rugrass (53/9) 5.00 Sister Sister (1086) 5.30 Sister Sister (9970) 6.00 Sabrina the Teenage Wach (6883) 8.30 Kablami (7135)

TROUBLE 12.00 pm Swart's Crossing (1671651)
12.30 Ready or Not (4483845) 1.00 Madeson (6114932) 1.30 Sweet Valley High (4482116) 2.00 Saved by the Bell (9754970)
2.30 Swart's Crossing (9719067) 3.00 Ready or Not (9749777) 3.20 No Nated Flame (9716972) 4.00 Sweet by the Bell (9700316)
4.30 USa High (9799203) 5.00 Hangtone (9745222) 5.30 Sweet Valley High (9793833) 8.00 Blast (9710795) 8.30 Madeson (9701048) 7.00 Hangtone (9755096) 7.30 USA High (9790832) 8.00 Close

8.00pm A-Team (9046390) 9.00 Buming Zone (9069154) 10.00 Tour of Duty (3069241) 11.00 FBLM: Truck Temer (1874) (3034116) 12.50em Lesle Nicisen's Unbatanced World (5800384) 1.00 Burning Zone (8050520) 2.00 Tour of Duty (3643029) 3.00 Fit.M: Truck Turner

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (1222) 7.30 Roseanne (3319) 8.00 Ellen (4870) 8.30 Cybil (6777) 9.00 Cheers (62883) 9.30 Tao (74131) 10.00 Monty Python's Flying Circus (92512) 11.25 Robin (181798) 11.30 Nghistand (5883) 12.00 Sepp (65826) 12.30am Pig Sty (26549) 1.00 Entertain-ment UK (82365) 1.30 Tao (21742) 2.00 Roseanne (1751568) 2.25 Robin (7001617) 2.30 Ellen (38346) 3.00 Cybil (75029) 3.30 Checrs (53326) 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (68509511 9.00 FILM: Psychomenia (1971) (12121203) 10.50 The Making of Scawn (9857680) 11.00 Friday the 13th (6986768) 12.00 Sightings (9170433) 1.00em The Twilight Zone (1773229) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (7118548) 2.00 Dark Shadows (903181) 2.30 New Alfred Hitchanck (9021988) 3.00 Friday the 13th (1175617) 4.00 Close

9.00am Smply Parting (1804999) 9.30 Gerden Calendar (4485203) 10,00 Garden Caub (9199777) 10.30 Room Service (1663883) 11.00 The House (1829951) 11.30 Graham Ken (1820980) 12.200 Jule Child (1684125) 12.30pm Two's Country (4496319) 1.00 This Old House (6127406) 1.30 Horre Again (4488380) 2.00 Harmor il Horre (9734116) 2.30 Antiques Trad (9715241) 3.00 The Restoration Gamo (9746951) 3.30 Fundame to Go (9727086) DISCOVERY

4.00pm Turning Points (9706593) 4.30 My Little Eye (9702777) 5.00 Connections 2

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Samba: Phythms of Life (4195951)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm: The Great Days of the Century (2276116) 5.00 History Encode (9273086) 7.00 Biography: Jack the Ripper (2052393) CHALLENGE TV

Wirr with Prize Time twice an hour 5.00pm Cross Wils (2970) 5.30 Sey the Word (6645) 6.00 Family Fortunes (6086) 6.30 Catchphriss (7339) 7.16 The 564,000 Question (457749) 8.00 Spir Second (625715) 8.30 More on Up (7561) 9.15 Winner Takes All (319970) 10.00 Treasure Hurri (47086) 11.20 Whittle (206406) 12.00 Sey the Word (40100) 12.20em Hert to Hart (45487) 1.30 The Boy Veloy (71278) 2.30 Mghty Jungle (77520) 3.00 My Two Dads (33013) 3.30 Where I Live (91100) 4.00 Explorer (12013) 5.00 Shopping (94443) Win with Prize Time twice an hour

UK LIVING

6.00am Lucky Ladders 6.35 Lingo 7.00 Tary Living 9.00 i Dream of Jeanno 9.30 Gordon Elicii 10.10 Jeny Springer 11.00 Gordon Eliot 10.10 Jerry Springer 11.00 Young and Restless 11.50 Mysieves, Magic and Miracles 12.20pm Why Me? 12.50 Rolonde 1.40 Tempest 2.30 Cheap Chic 3.00 Live at Three 4.05 Jerry Springer 5.00 Rolonde 5.50 Lucky Ladders 6.25 Heat It On 7.00 Hearts Afrie 7.30 Mystenes, Magic and Miracles 8.00 Adversafin Junios 9.00 FILMs A Sessil Killing 11.00 Scs. Life

7.00em Jasoren 7.30 Film Decware 8.00 Rashet 8.30 Posave Health 8.00 Yasdon Ki Beress 9.30 Ten Bir Chup Mori Bir Chup 10.00 Dash 11.00 Zaike Ki Sefer 11.30 Hassetain 12.00 Andaz 12.30pon Rashet 10.00 Park 12.00 Andaz 12.30pon Rashet 10.00 Park 12.00 Park 13.00 Park 13. Hasrean 12:00 Andaz 12:30pm Haariat 1,00 Augentey 2.00 FBM 4.00 ZE Zono Presents 4:05 Kamal Kombination 4:35 Khel Time 5:00 Zone Time 5:25 Fb 8:06 Chufti Baja Ke 6:30 ZE and You 7:00 like Pe Biba 7:30 Mest Mast Hai Zindagi 8:00 News 8.30 Parampara 9.05 FILM

The 24 hour music channel, includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds

AT RATE

(63574) 11.00 Sza: Trek: The Next Genera-tion (47609) 12.00 Late Show (35345) 1.00em Long Play (1752617) SKY NEWS

SKY MOVIES GOLD

8.00pm WCW Nitro (73005777) 9.00 The

SKY SPORTS 1:

7.00em Sports Centre (78135) 7.30 Westing (11864) 8.30 Sports Centre (89135) 9.00 Super Languer Auckland v Bradfard — 1. 10e (46408) 11.00 Recing News (51777) 11.30 Futbol Mundial (52408) 12.00 Aerobics (8965) 12.30pm Inside the PGA Tour (27883) 1.00 Golf: Germen Masters — Live (366347) 14.00 Fut Throttle (8964) 4.30 Ruchy Cub (81154) 6.00 Sports Centre (24654) 7.00 Super Languer Wigam v Hunder (44654) 7.00 Super Languer Wigam v Hunder (44654) 7.00 Super Languer Wigam v Hunder (44654) 7.00 Sports Centre (94670) 11.00 Hold the Back Page (25883) 12.00 Sports Centre (8968) 1.00em Rugby Langue (60548) 3.00 Westling (46297) 6.00 Hold the Back Page SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (2907715) 7.30 Sports
Centre (298222) 8.00 Racing (2659405)
8.30 Tight Lines (3/16951) 9.30 Rugby
Club (5110970) 11.00 Formula Times
(2659570) 12.00 Powerboating (8252593)
12.30yam Footbel League Review
(2627951) 1.00 Rugby Club (4288715) 2.30
Full Throttle (7772983) 3.00 Trans World
Sport (2299609) 4.00 Formula Times
(2279519) 5.00 Full Throttle (5537929) 8.30
Figh 5 (7783999) 6.00 Inside the Sortor
(7764884) 7.00 Huddersield Town v
Notinghum Forest — Live (643250) 10.00
Golf: Buck Challenge (2291690) 12.06
Golf: Germen Meeters (63116394 1.30m+
High 5 (6798279) 2.00 Sports Centre
(6186723) 3.00 Buck Challenge (8224555)
8.00 Inside the Senior PGA Tour (1379487)
5.00 Full Throttle (182723)
SKY SPORTS 3

Cheffort's Socoer Scrapbook (64453777)
2.30 Midnight Lesgue (95737932) 4.30
Futbol Mundiel (97514203) 5.00 World
Windsuffing (65414845 5.30 Trans World
Sport (35576512) 6.30 Golf: Buick Chefergs — Live (48845048) 8.30 Golf: German
Masters (35554832) 10.00 Weesting
(29118048) 12.00 Close EUROSPORT

6.00am Motorcycling: Australian Grand Ptx Qualitying — Live (88813777) 3.15 Cross-Country Relly World Cup (977883) 8.45 Motorcycling: Australian Grand Ptx Qualitying (7634699) 10.00 Notoccycling: Australian Grand Ptx Qualitying (7634699) 10.00 Notoccycling: Australian Grand Ptx Qualitying (1846) 2.30 Canceing: Statom World Championinings (7846) 4.00 Ternis: Swiss Indoo: (3481777) 9.00 Showjumping: German Classics — Live (86351) 10.00 Motorcycling: Australian Grand Ptx Preview (96369) 11.00 Jump the Bust (61154) 11.30 Windsursing (50509) 12.00 Cross Country Relly World Cup (52462) 12.30am Close

UK GOLD

7.00min Rentachosi (8425425) 7.36 Naighbours (839984) 8.00 Crossmads (9155712) 8.25 EastEnders (3127951) 9.00 The Bit (1608357) 9.30 Howards Way (4987661) 10.00 in Loving Memory (9191195) 10.30 The Subvars (1655241) 11.00 Boon (85154795) 12.05pm Crossmads (57622154) 12.30 Naighbours (498777) 1.00 EastEnders (2580767) 1.35 Two Ronnies (8265375) 2.36 After the Show (9198889) 2.50 Are You Beng Savver? (4539445) 3.30 This Bit (9796116) 4.00 Casualty (82023318) 3.05 EastEnders (900909) 5.40 Bot's Full House (7046574) 6.20 Two Ronnies (4484067) 7.20 Russ Abbot (2225715) 7.50 Home to Roost (1635512) 8.20 Bush Strokes (1034795) 9.00 The Bit (181845) 9.30 Januar (89420154) 10.36 Rose (1636511) 11.20 Sottly, Sottly, Task Force (8840661) 11.20 Sottly, Sottly, Task Force (8840661) 12.20mm it's a Knockout (47865033) 1.25 Sunwors (9955075) 2.25 Shopping GRANADA PLUS GRANADA PLUS

8.00em El Uncat (7683057) 6.30 Beadle's About (3246715) 7.00 Coronation St. (560574) 7.30 Families (5625600) 8.00 Surpines Surpines (5833915) 8.00 Upsteix, Courtstell's (762775) 40.00 Mission Incossible (561458) 71.00 Handi Five C (5634357) 12.00 Coronation St (4770405) 12.30pm Families (2628393) 1.00 Bind

Date (2823048) 2.00 Upstars, Downstains (3236796) 3.00 Beadle's About (5082241) 3.30 Surpical Spiri (558406) 4.00 Mission impossible (3090989) 5.00 Hawaie Five-O (5073593) 6.00 Families (5573970) 6.30

purses) sur Famers (6573970) 6.30 Congestion 25 (555222) 7.00 (814) Dete (129512) 9.00 Mission impossible (1275822) 9.00 Coronation 3(5056883) 2.30 The Comedians (248357) 10.90 Harral Five-O (1298583) 11.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL

FOX KIDS NETWORK

Ducley (6849703) 10.00 Inspector Gadget (2475222) 10.30 Servara: Ptzz: Cars (1482273) 11.00 Sweet Valley High (6422766) 12.00 Ace Vertura (1402283) 12.30 gas Casper (1544339) 1.00 The Tick (6425512) 1.30 Iron Men (6493280) 2.00 Fantestic Four (4191135) 2.30 Power Rangers Zeo (7777823 3.00 Beetelongs (4103970) 3.00 Masked-Rider (7789228) 4.00 Ace Vertura (7788135) 4.30 Casper (774316) S.00 The Tick (4115715) 5.30 X Men (7789929) 6.00 Socierman (7785128)

Legend of the Lost Tomb (1995) (63680) 9.00 Second Nosh (31425) 10.00 Close

BRAVO

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

HOME & LEISURE

Little Eye (8702777) 5.00 Connections 2 (9756796) 5.30 Jurassus 2 (8756357) 6.00 The Big Animal Show (9716970) 6.30 Wild at Heart (9707222) 7.00 Beyond 2000 (9736932) 7.30 Turning Ponts (9703406) 8.00 Scorpion (905984) 9.00 New Detectives (8079628) 10.00 Medical Detectives (1656584) 10.30 Medical Detectives (165684512) 11.00 The Falklands War (6137883) 12.00 The Specialists II (2019810) 12.30am My Little Eye (8371926) 1.00 Turning Points (7687029) 1.30 Connections 2 (8475520) 2.00 Close

7.00pm Samoa: renymme to the (416060 i) 7.30 The Last Frog (7765048) 8.00 Wald! Life Adventures (7015408) 8.00 Fatal



FOOTBALL 44

Asprilla injury leaves Newcastle short of attacking options

RUGBY LEAGUE 45

Iro brothers aim to make triumphant return to Central Park



FRIDAY OCTOBER 3 1997

Lack of motivation leads to retirement of world champion

Collins hangs up his gloves

By NICK SZCZEPANIK AND SRIKUMAR SEN.

EVEN in these post-Gazza days, it can be a surprise to see a grown man cry, the more so when the individual in question is the super-middleweight boxing champion of the world. Yesterday, at the Lonsdale International Sporting Club dinner held in a London hotel, tears welled in the eyes of Steve Collins, the holder of the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) version of that title, as he announced his retirement from professional boxing.

"I want boxing people to hear this first." he said, to cheers. "I was not stripped of my title |contrary to some reports on Wednesday after his withdrawal, through injury, from a forthcoming title defence against Joe Calzaghej. I am still super-middleweight champion of the world.

For the last 12 months, I've been having problems with motivation. A few years ago. super-middleweight was not only the most exciting division in boxing, but also the most talented and my ambition was to prove I was the best of all. For me right now [he paused a hand drawn over his eyes] I've decided to retire." Then there was uproar, with sporadic outbreaks of applause and cries of "Reconsider!"

"I've no more ambitions to fulfil." he added, before choking back an audible sob and swaying off as if to the safety of a non-existent corner, returning to centre stage to reiterate his intention to call it

It was not, of course, as clear-cut as that. It never is. As any number of boxers have proved, good intentions can be clouded by visions of another big purse, but, in the subsequent press conference, Collins was adamant that the only temptation to return to the ring would be the removal of the stumbling block to his ambitions that had forced him

"I'm not going to say 'never'," the 33-year-old Dubliner said. "I don't intend coming back - it wasn't something I said and didn't really mean but it would have to be something really special. The only person I can think of



Collins struggles to control his emotions after announcing the end of his boxing career in London yesterday. Photograph: Denzil McNeelance

would be Roy Jones [the World Boxing Council light-heavy-

weight champion]." The failure to attract Jones. formerly considered the best super-middleweight and the best boxer, pound-for-pound, in the world, into the ring, even at the American's own weight, had been the focus of a year of frustration for Collins. Jones ducked him continuously." Frank Warren, Col-lins's manager, said. "The

challenge was there and he

| Walk in step; frontier (5)

2 Thomas —, landscapist/portraitist (12)

3 Line of reference, of rota-

6 One fights unyieldingly to

12 Noodle dish; how - mince?

13 Conduct oneself (well) (6)

tion (4)

it (3,6,3)

7 Avaricious (6)

(anag.) (4.4)

18 Pondered (5)

15 Incompetent (to) (6)

4 Made a case (6)

5 Church wing (8)

didn't accept it. If he was a great champion, he would have fought Steve."

If he had done so, he would

have found a tough boxer, a throwback to the old days of the sport. The Celtic Warrior, as Collins liked to call himself, knew how to take a punch and give one, he could look after himself in the toughest of company. He learnt his trade in the United States under the Petronelli brothers - Pat and Goody - who managed and trained Marvin Hagler at Brockton, Massachusetts, and had his first 20 contests on the tough American circuit. He returned to Dublin in 1991 and

> BY JOHN HOPKINS GOLF CORRESPONDENT

HOW short-lived fame is.

Four days after captaining

Europe to an historic victory

in the Ryder Cup in Spain.

Severiano Ballesteros was fu-

rious yesterday at being repri-

manded by tournament officials for slow play at an

Sunday at Valderrama

mìght have been a year away

for all it meant to Ballesteros.

The first man from mainland

Europe to play in and captain winning Ryder Cup teams was beside himself with anger

after being warned for taking

too long over a putt near the end of his first round in the

Ballesteros believes there is

a conspiracy against him by

officials of the PGA European

Tour. "This has been going on for the last half-year." he said.

There is always someone on

top of me. It has happened

every week and I am ted up

Linde German Masters.

event in Germany.

feats on his record and they were at the hands of world

He boxed for Barry Hearn's Matchroom stable before moving to Warren. He won the WBO middleweight title in 1994 then moved up to super-middleweight for lucrative bouts with Chris Eubank and Nigel Benn. He beat both of them twice. Eubank on points.

stopping Benn both times. Looking back on his career yesterday, Collins said that he saw himself as the last of a

with it. Maybe I have to go

and Sven Struver had fallen

and were one and a half holes

Ballesteros, Tom Lehman

minutes behind schedule

somewhere else to play."

ished. There's some great new was similarly circumspect. talent there - in a couple of years, the division will be back at its best - but what's there for me doesn't appeal any

Eutranks, the Benns."
Lestead, his next bout was due to be against Calzaghe, who was sceptical yesterday about Collins's announce ment. People like Chris Eubank have announced their retirement before and come back and I think hell do the same," the Welshman said. Eubank, who will meet Cal-

of play has been extremely

slow because of the condi-

tions, David Probyn, the

tournament director, said.

saying that the Irishman was "just being whimsical". Collins said of those left to

dispute his title: "I wish him [Calzaghe] and Eubank all the best. If there were more like Chris Eubank, I probably wouldn't be retiring. I could have taken another fight, for money, but that's not me. I go in to win. Going in half-hearted is when fighters get hurt. I'm happy that I'm getting out in my prime. Boxers walk out damaged. I'm healthy and lucky to be in that situation. I feel a very wise man to have got out."

United lose injured Keane for rest of the season

BY OLIVER HOLT POOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THEIR European Cup Champions: League tie against Juventus over and their triumph secure. Manchester United yesterday abandoned the damage limitation exercise with which they have attempted to shroud the knee injury to their captain, Roy Keane, and admitted that the damage was about as bad as it could be

Keane injured the knee in a chursy challenge on Alf Inge Haaland in United's FA Carling Premiership match against Leeds United at Elland Road on Saturday. Booked for the tackle, castigat-ed because the injury was essentially self-inflicted, he left the ground on crutches and speculation has been rife ever since that the prognosis was

United confirmed that spec-

ulation yesterday when they released a statement announc ing that Keane would be admitted to hospital some time within the next month for a cruciate ligament operation, the same injury that sidelined Paul Gascoigne for so long. "Roy Keane had an exploratory operation on Monday," a club spokesman said. "A small piece of cartilage was removed and it was also discovered that he would require a cruciate knee ligament operation. That will be performed in approximately four weeks, when the swelling has gone down. He will be out for

the rest of the season." The news, though tempered by the realisation that they still beat Juventus 3-2 without the man who has been their outstanding player so far this season, is a bitter blow to United's hopes of fending of the challenges to their domestic championship and to their ambitions of winning the European Cup. Keane, with his box-to-box runs, his fierce tackling and his inspirational leadership, is not a player

easily replaced.
"It is a great disappointment to lose such an important player for such a long time," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said yesterday, but we have no lears about the long-term situation. We have absolutely no doubt that Roy Keane will be back for the start of next season."

United help Hoddle, page 44 Asprilla's injury, page 44

Tomorrow in **FOOTBALL SATURDAY**

DANNY BAKER on Keegan's dramatic return at Fulham

> STEVE MCMANAMAN

on a recall to the England · fold

GRAEME LE SAUX

talks to **Oliver Holt**

Under the skin of Sport

TIMESTWO No 1215

ACROSS

- King John's concession
- 8 Abusing: iron fence (7)
- 10 A mix-up: reheated dish (4) 11 Possible to achieve (8)
- 14 Nursery item: crazy (5)
- 17 Period; name (4) 20 Ill-defined (5)
- spy (7)
- 9 Loathe (5)

13 Soup, stock (5)

- 16 Pull wool over (one's) eyes
- 21 Citizen of borough; Guy -.
- 22 Without protection (10)
- 19 Encourage (4) ACROSS: 1 Contiguous 8 Faction 9 Imply 10 Airy 11 Crescent 13 Ritual 15 Colour 17 Cocktail 18 Dado

21 Defoe 22 Species 23 Los Angeles DOWN: 2 Occur 3 Twig 4 Gantry 5 Omission 6 Supremo 7 Mysterious 8 Fratricide 12 Mattress 14 Tactful 16 Wilson 19 Alive 20 Gene PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE FOR UK ONLY, SEND SAE FOR DETAILS AND PRICES OF THE TIMES ATLASES OF MAIL ORDER CHANGES EX UK.

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champions McCallum, Reggie Johnson and Sumbu Kalambay.

generation of great fighters.

"I've proved every point I've set out to in boxing," he said.

"The old school is now fincontinued to box at the highest level. He has only three de-

more. I went through with my last two fights, but I didn't want them. I wanted the

> zaghe in Sheffield on October Il for Collins's now vacant WBO super-middleweight title.

Leading article, page 21 Lewis's challenge, page 42

behind the group in front tee. It states that they will not be given any warning that they are being timed. They will just be told if they breach when Tony Gray, an experienced tournament referee. began timing them. "The pace

Ballesteros was furious after being warned for slow play



Ballesteros not slow to boil over the rule. If they breach it a second time, they will be fined £500 and given a one-stroke

penalty." On the 16th green. All the players were handed a Ballesteros took 55 seconds for pace-of-play notice on the first a putt, 15 seconds more than the time allowed. As he walked off the 17th tee, he was warned by Gray that he had breached the pace-of-play rule. Ballesteros said he was so upset that he hit his second shot into a pond by the side of the 18th green, which cost him a six for a 74, two over par.

"I think Tony Gray should do something else," Balles-teros said. "He is not qualified. I birdied 14 and 15 and made a tremendous four on 16 where I had to pull away from a fivefoot putt because of the cam-eras and because somebody was moving. Then, as we came off the 17th tee, he made this bad statement. It's terrible. This guy should be

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Super League develops tartan tendency

RUGBY league might belong to Glas-gow from next year, or at least the Angio-Australian franchise that has operated as Paris Saint-Germain for the past two

Super League seasons.

There has been an expression of interest, too, by Hibernian Football Club. to base a team in Edinburgh from 1999, but the idea of a Super League outpost in Scotland may be hurried through in time for next season because of concerns about the continued viability of the Paris

operation. Glasgow City Council has been actively involved in proposals to locate a team at Partick Thistle, where the football club has agreed to alternative use of the ground in the summer. Two Scotland international matches staged there in the past year created modest interest. Without financial guarantees, the Rug-

by Football League (RFL) was rejuctant

Christopher Irvine on why Paris may prove

no match for Glasgow

to start up a new club immediately, but pressure from the Super League's £87 million backers to spread the base of the game, and the Paris club's failure to make an impact on the French public and media, could result in its resources being diverted to a Scottish franchise.

Unless the French Federation can convince the RFL that it can run Paris successfully. Super League is set to uproot from France. Cardiff is another possibility, but with Perth Reds going out business this week, and Hunter Mariners, who play at Wigan tonight in the world club championship, also on the

verge of extinction, Australians, rather than Scotsmen or Welshmen, will comprise any new team. The Australian influence has twice

helped Paris to remain in the top flight. From the high point of the team's launch, in March 1996, when a crowd of 17.873 arrived to witness them beat Sheffield Eagles, attendances at the Charlety Stadium have dwindled at the same rate that French players have departed the club, and the novelty value of rugby league in a strange city has

The irony is that Oldham, among the game's founders in 1895, could fold after their Super League relegation. The club has El million in debts and faces a walkout by players who have not been paid for seven weeks.

Wigan showdown, page 45